SARAI 1

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SARAI
1

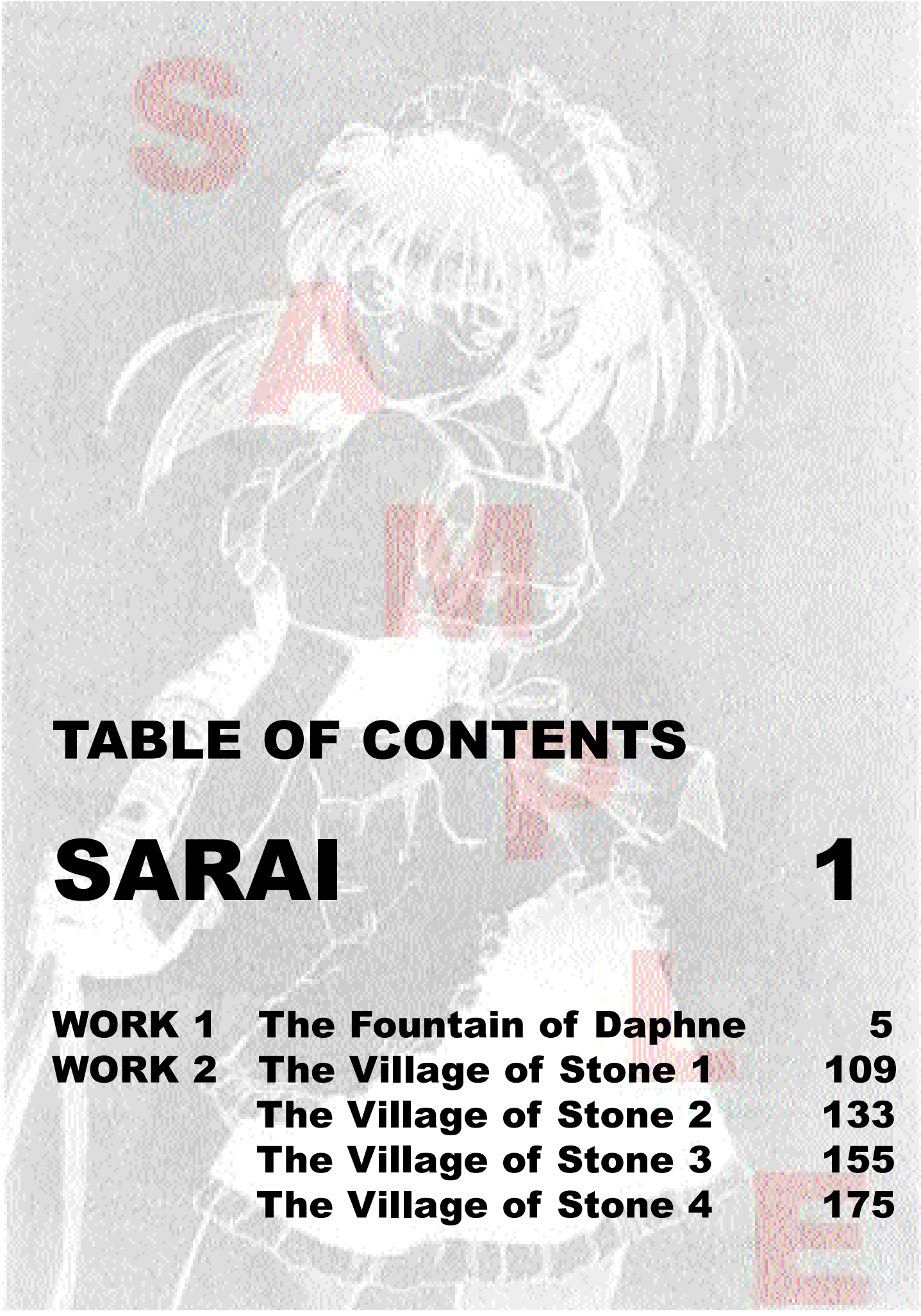
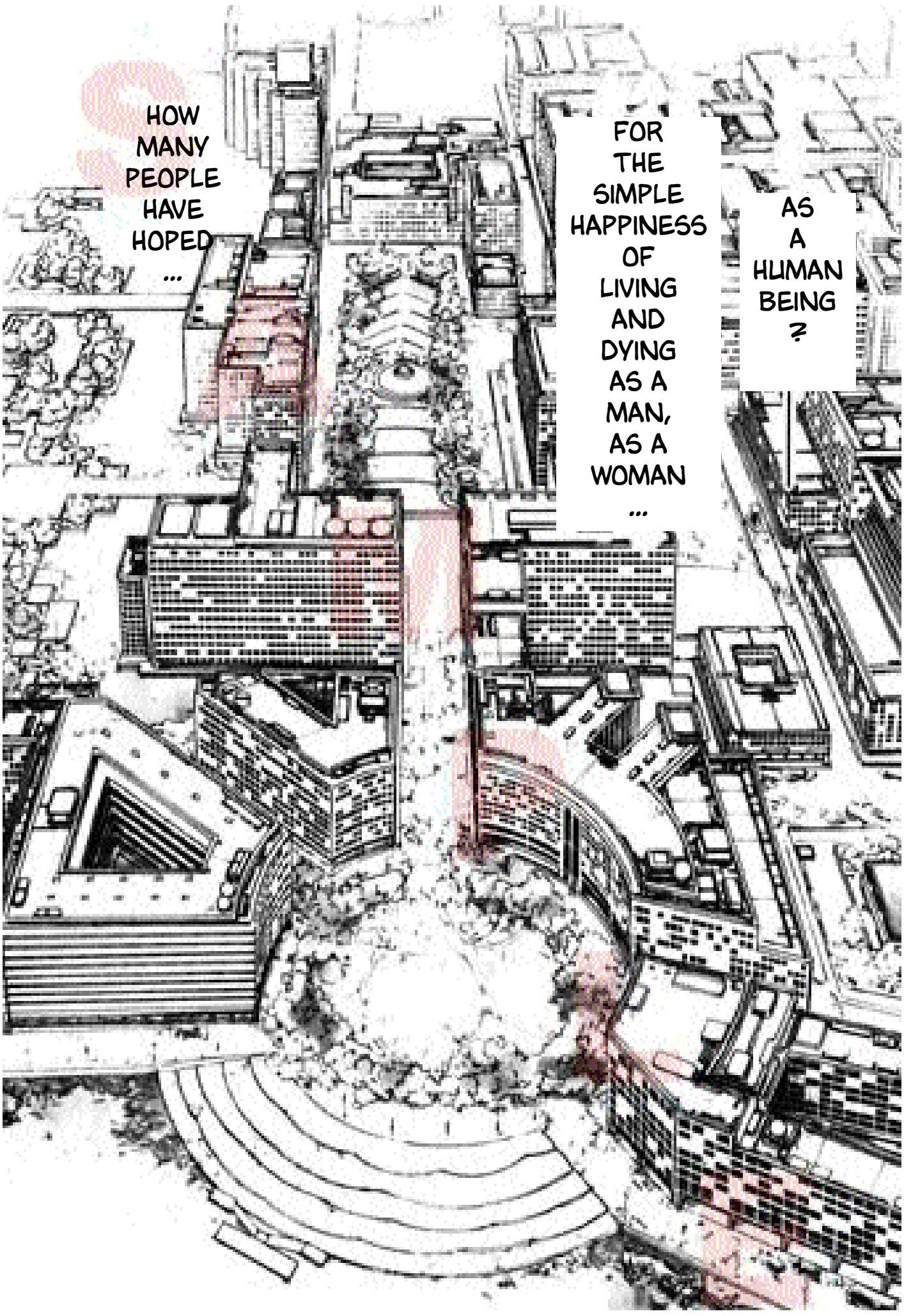


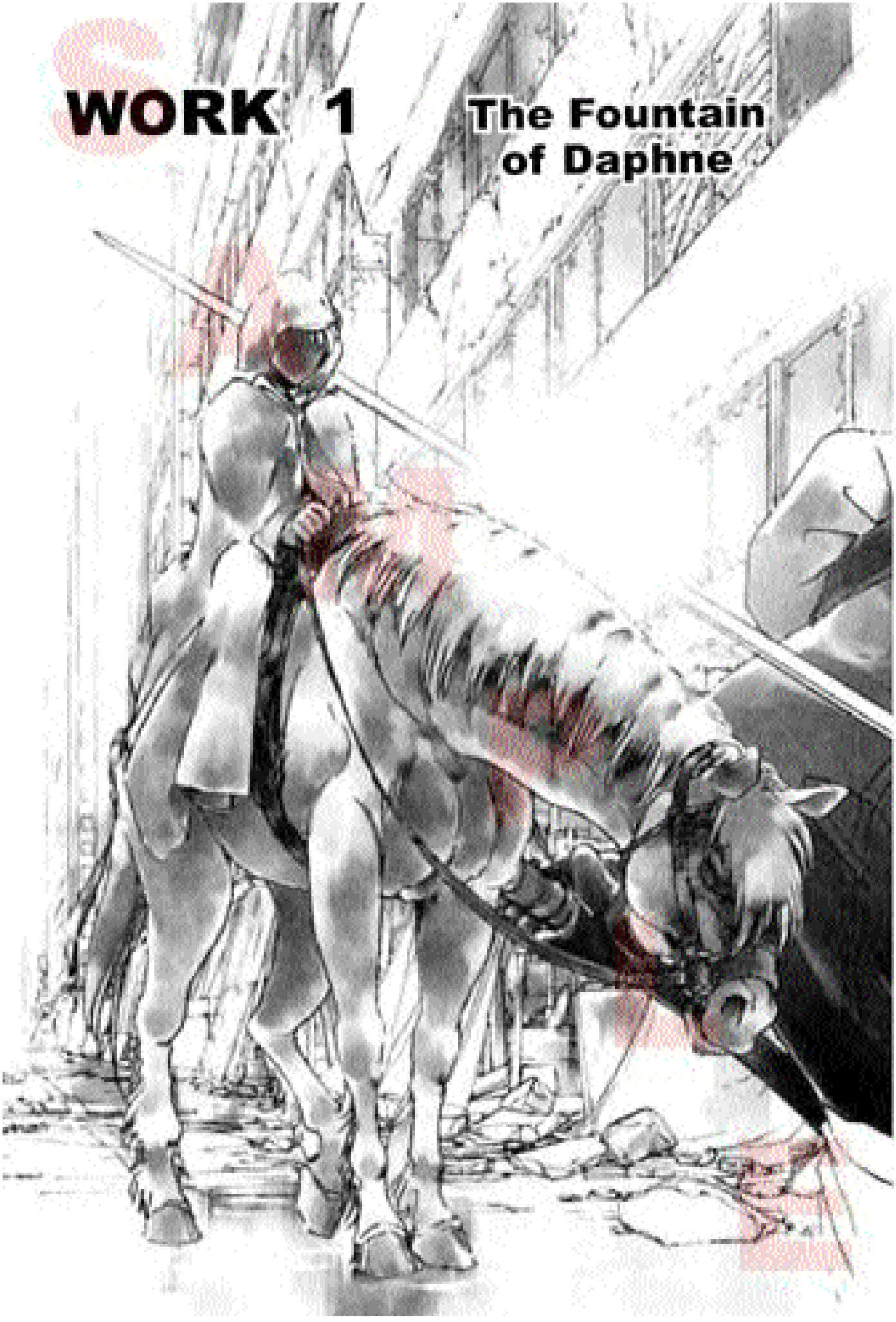
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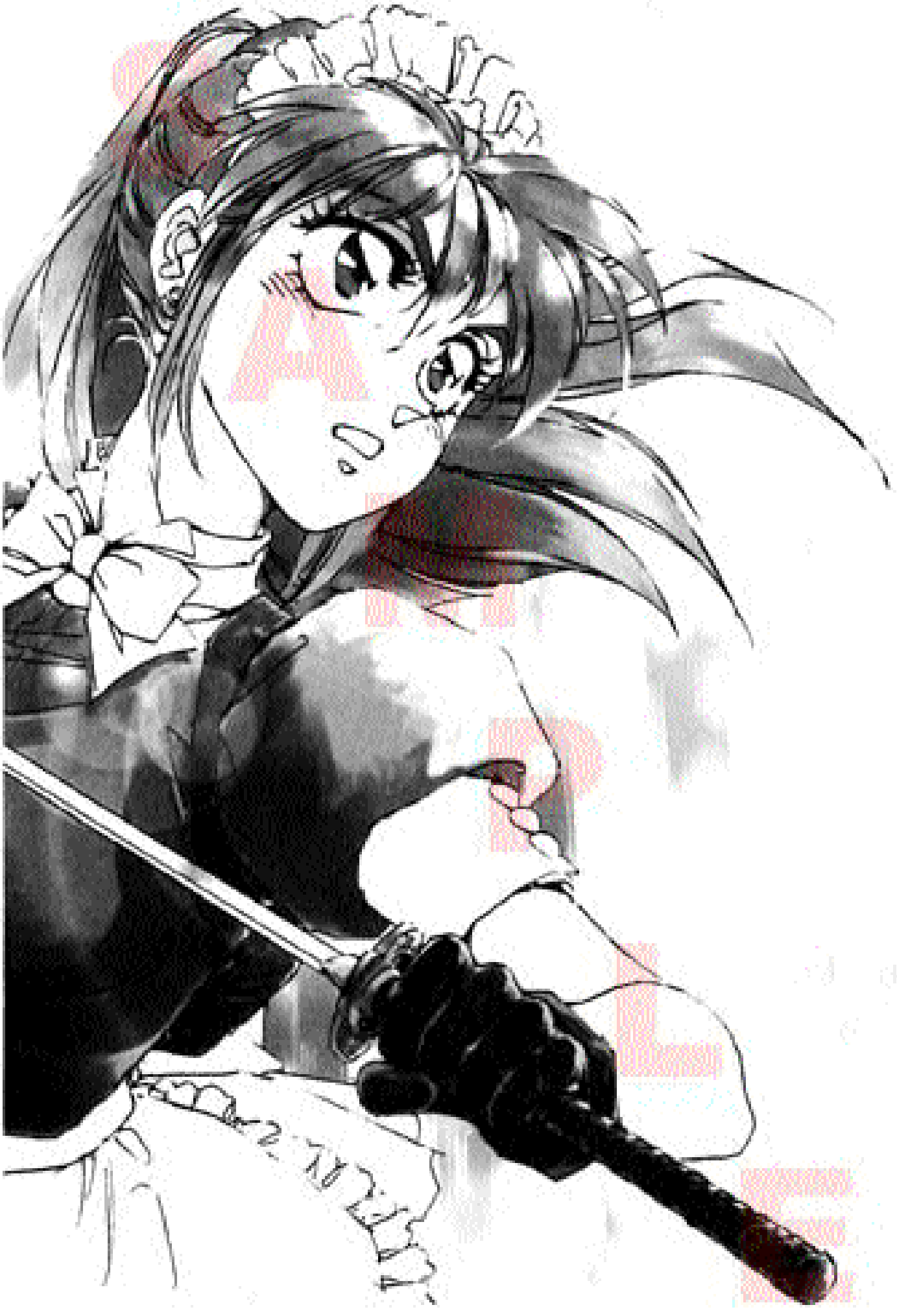
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HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE HOPED ...
FOR THE SIMPLE HAPPINESS OF LIVING AND DYING AS A MAN, AS A WOMAN ...
AS A HUMAN BEING ?

WORK 1 The Fountain of Daphne






GET OUTTA HERE !
WE DON'T GIVE HANDOUTS TO STRANGERS !!
SPLOSH
TOO LATE ...
JUST SOMETHING ...
ANYTHING TO FILL ME UP.
I'M HUNGRY ...


YOU'RE A REAL DRAG, MAN.
IT AIN'T SO EASY TO FILL YOU UP!!
WHEN I'M HUNGRY ...
BRRR BRRR
BRRR BRRR
I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF ...
BEAT IT.
STOP TRYIN' TO MAKE AUNTIE SOLANA MAD.
COUGH COUGH
BRRR
TCH...
COUGH COUGH
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T CONTROL YOURSELF ?
bloyk


SPLUT
krak
OH, NO !
IT'S A GIGANT !!!
krak krak
TOO LATE ...
GLMP
IT'S TOO LATE ...
GLMP


GARLO
!!
KCHOOM!
krakoom!
whamp!

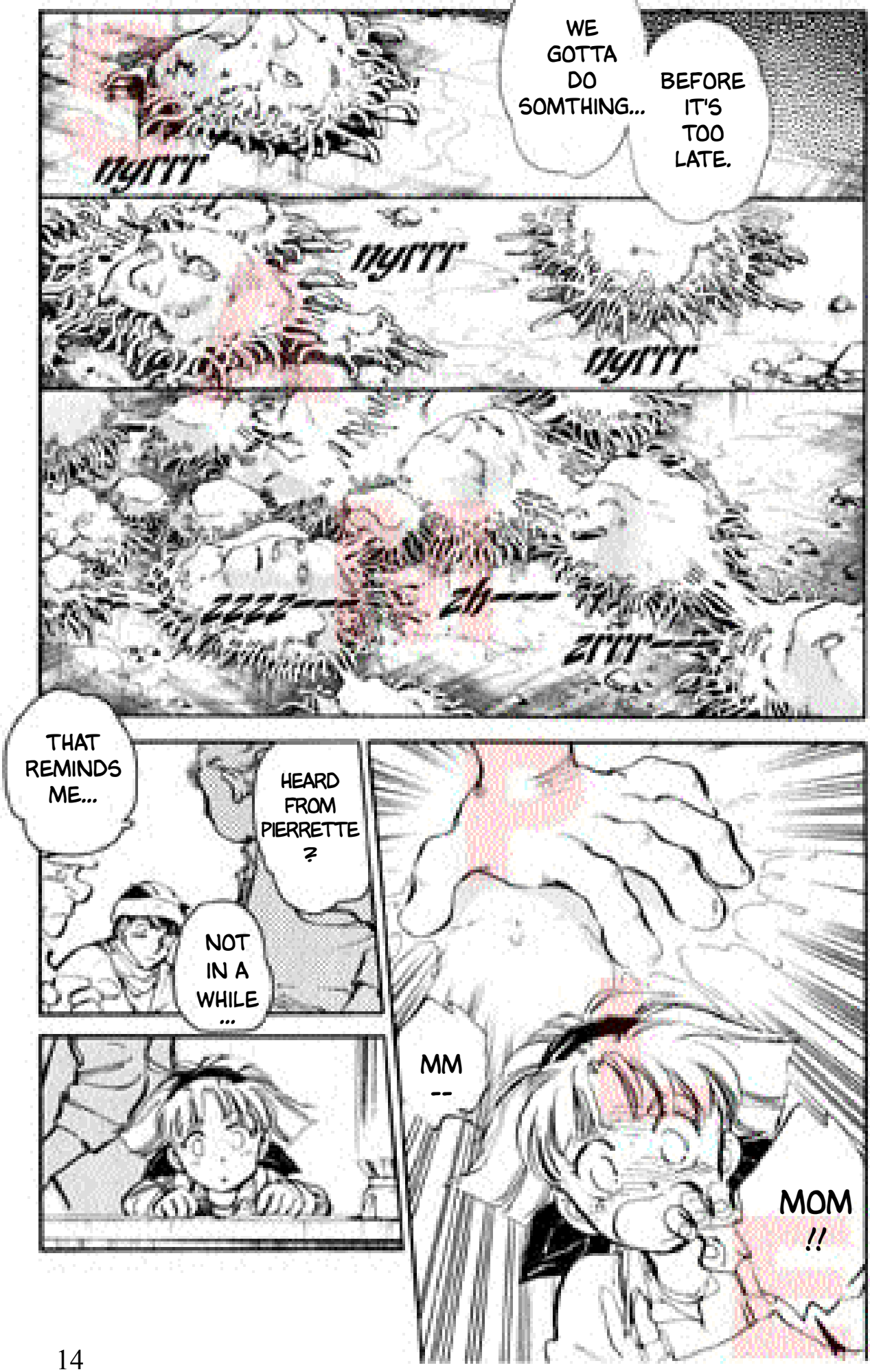

ROOAAAR
hshhhhhhh——
MAN! VICIOUS!
THESE ANTIQUE WEAPONS!

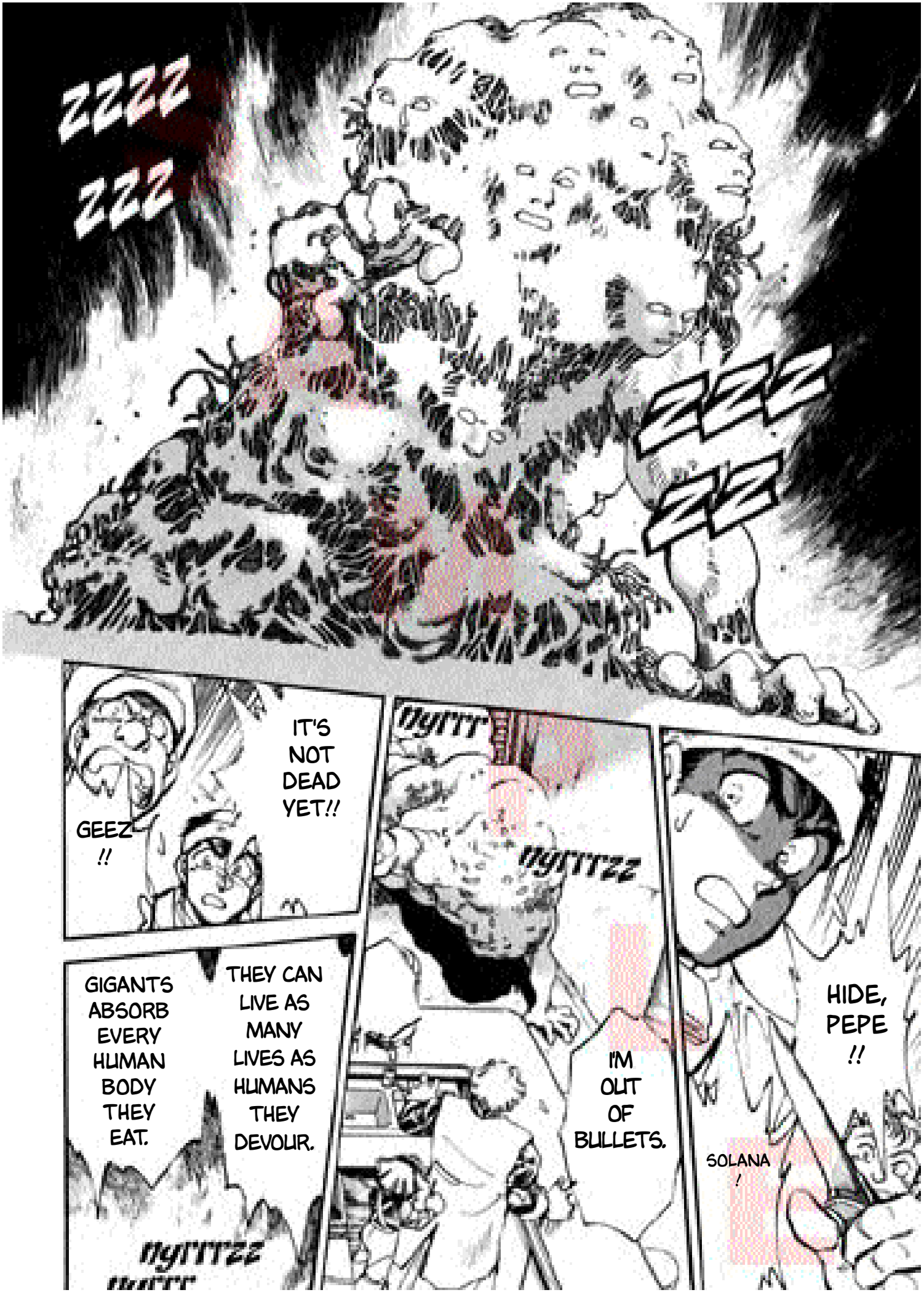

FOOD BAR
DRINK UP.
IT'S FOR GARLO.

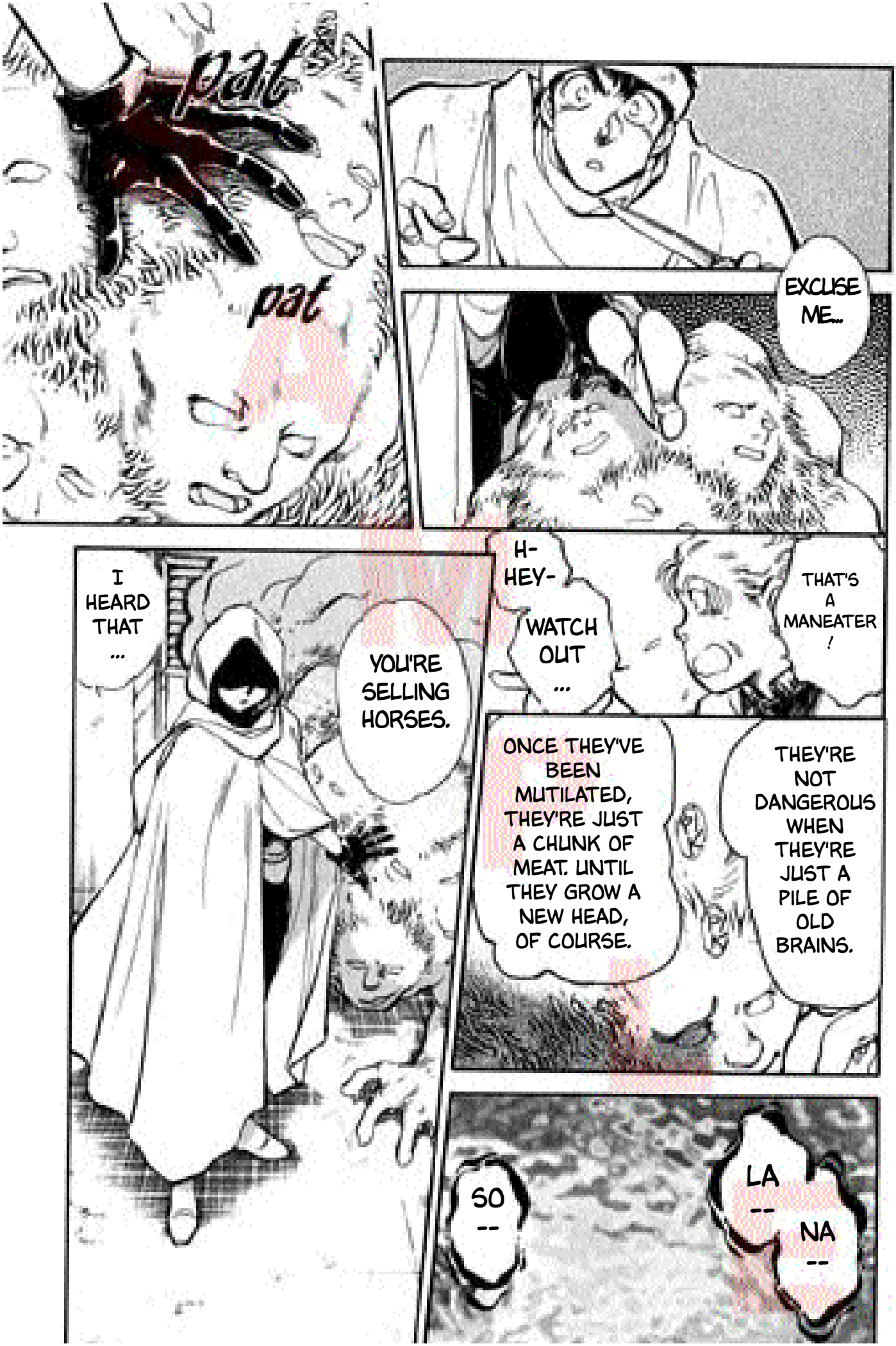
ACT 1

GLARE


GLARE
FINALLY ...
THEY'VE COME TO OUR TOWN, TOO.
AIN'T IT SAD?
JUST A MINUTE AGO HE WAS DRINKING WITH US.


WE GOTTA DO SOMTHING...
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.
nyrrr
nyrrr
nyrrr
zzzz—
zh—
zrrr—
THAT REMINDS ME...
HEARD FROM PIERRETTE ?
NOT IN A WHILE ...
MM --
MOM !!

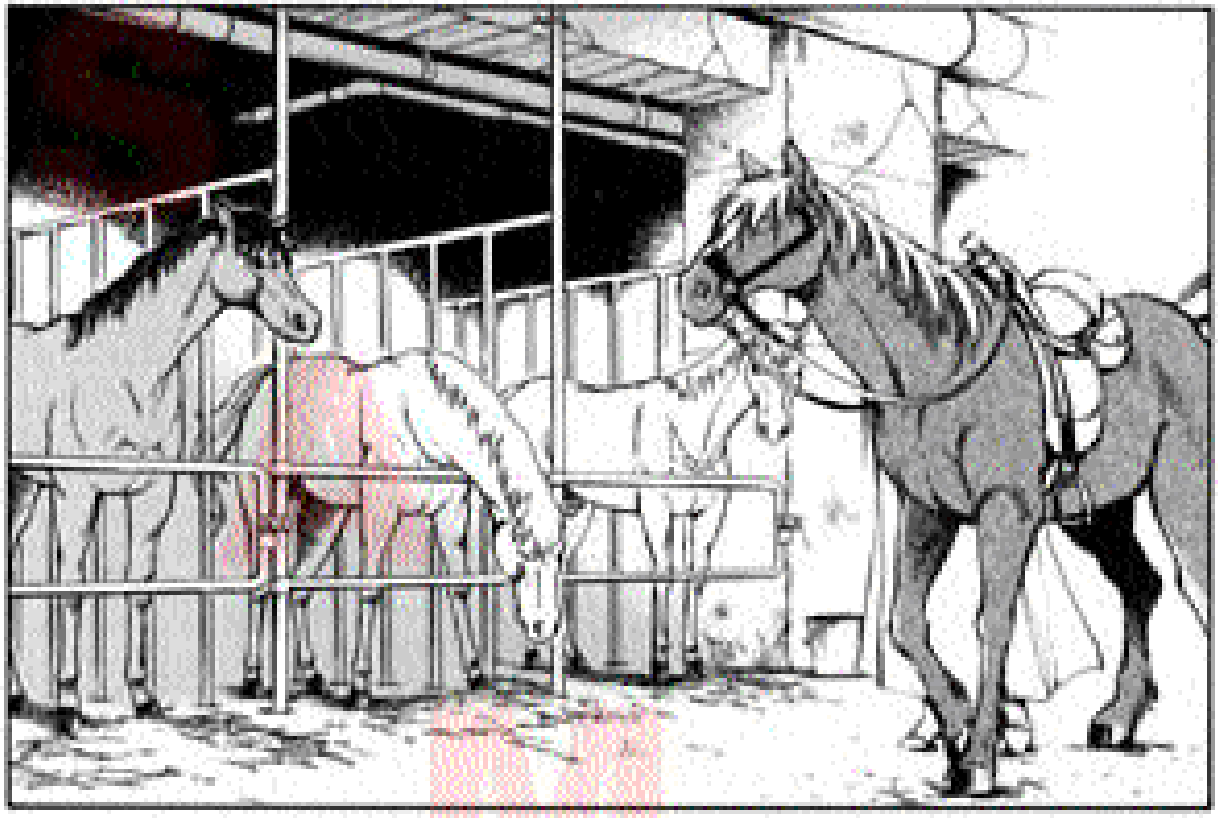

ZZZZ
ZZZ
GEEZ
EE
GEEZ
!!
IT'S NOT DEAD YET!!
NyrrrrzzNyrrrrzz
I'M OUT OF BULLETS.
HIDE, PEPE !!
SOLANA !
THEY CAN LIVE AS MANY LIVES AS HUMANS THEY DEVOUR.
GIGANTS ABSORB EVERY HUMAN BODY THEY EAT.
NyrrrrzzNyrrrr

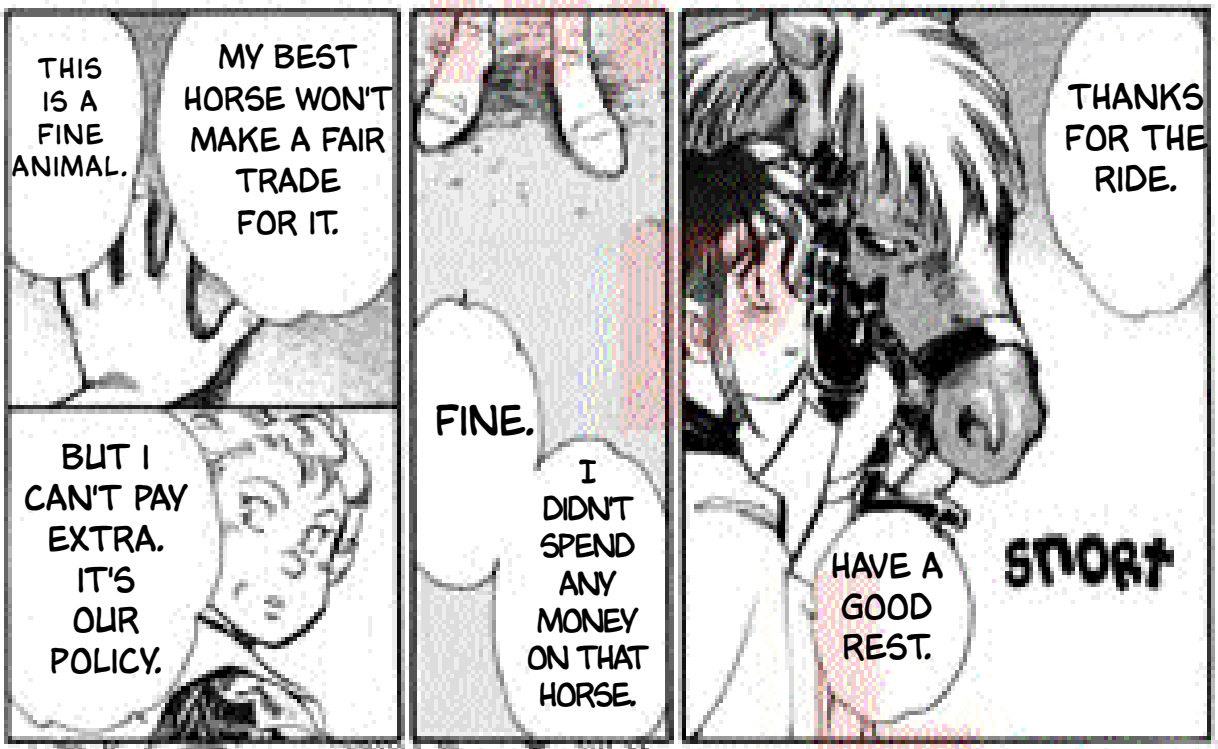

pat
pat
EXCUSE ME...
H-HEY-
WATCH OUT ...
THAT'S A MANEATER!
I HEARD THAT ...
YOU'RE SELLING HORSES.
ONCE THEY'VE BEEN MUTILATED, THEY'RE JUST A CHUNK OF MEAT. UNTIL THEY GROW A NEW HEAD, OF COURSE.
THEY'RE NOT DANGEROUS WHEN THEY'RE JUST A PILE OF OLD BRAINS.
SO --
LA -- NA --


WHY DID YOU --
SHOOT ME ?
GARLO !!
BLAM!
IT ... IT'S GOT A FRESH BRAIN !?
IT MUST'VE JUST EATEN !

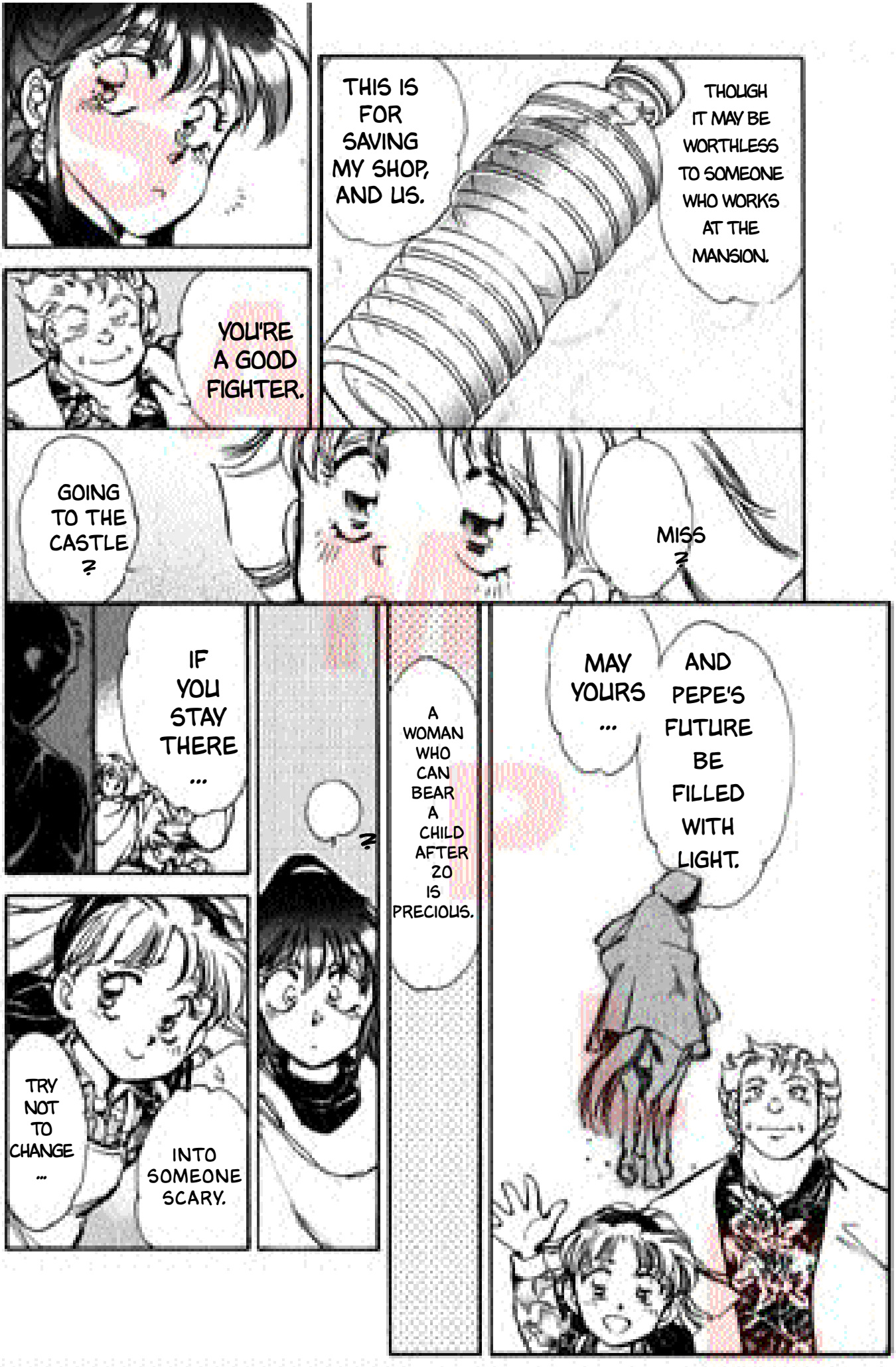

FWIP!
FWAP
FLAP
FWIP!
THUD


REST IN PEACE...
FUMP
AAA UG
AAA AG
AA GG
SWOOOOO

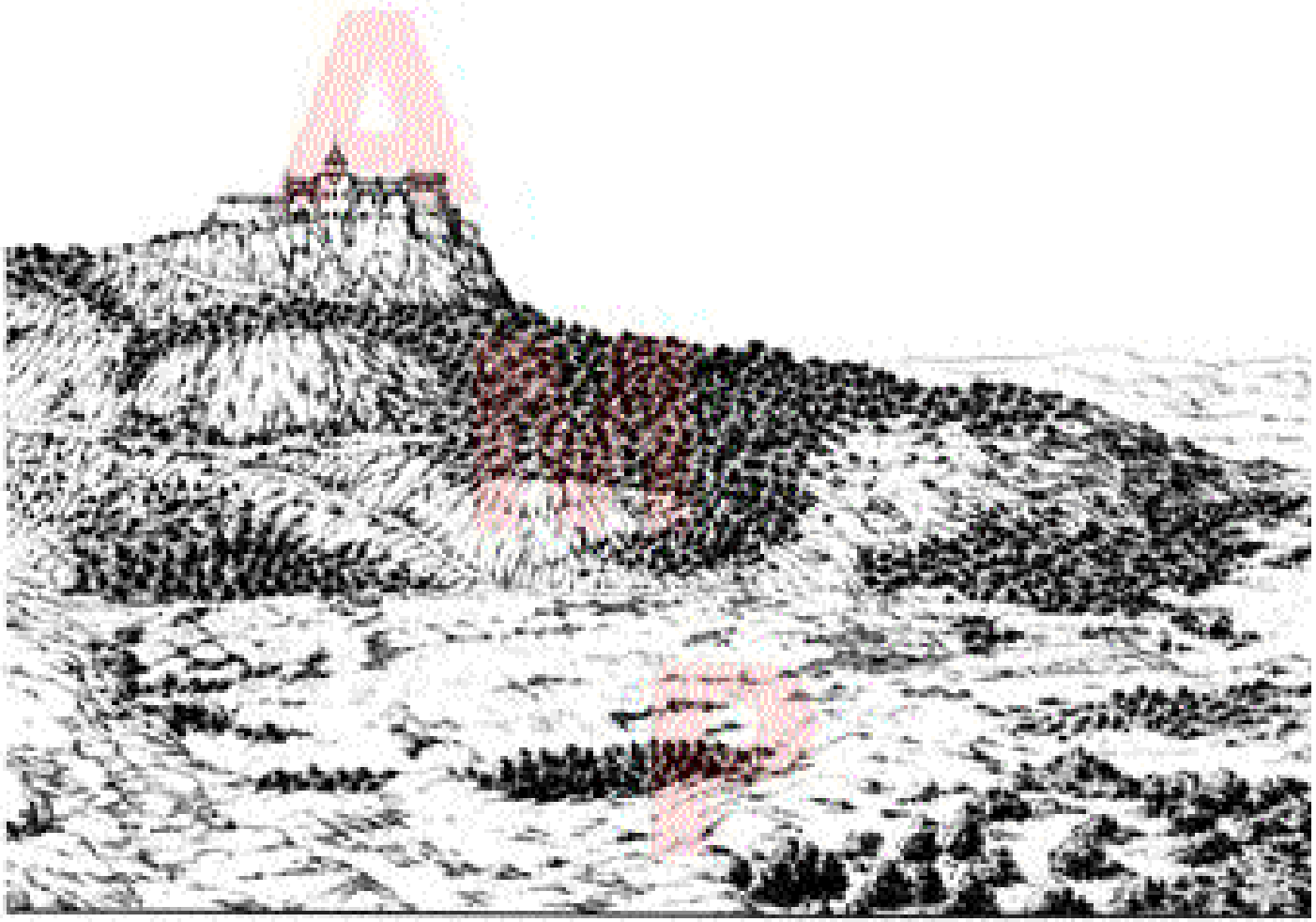



THIS IS A FINE ANIMAL.
MY BEST HORSE WON'T MAKE A FAIR TRADE FOR IT.
BUT I CAN'T PAY EXTRA. IT'S OUR POLICY.
FINE.
I DIDN'T SPEND ANY MONEY ON THAT HORSE.
THANKS FOR THE RIDE.
HAVE A GOOD REST.
SNORT

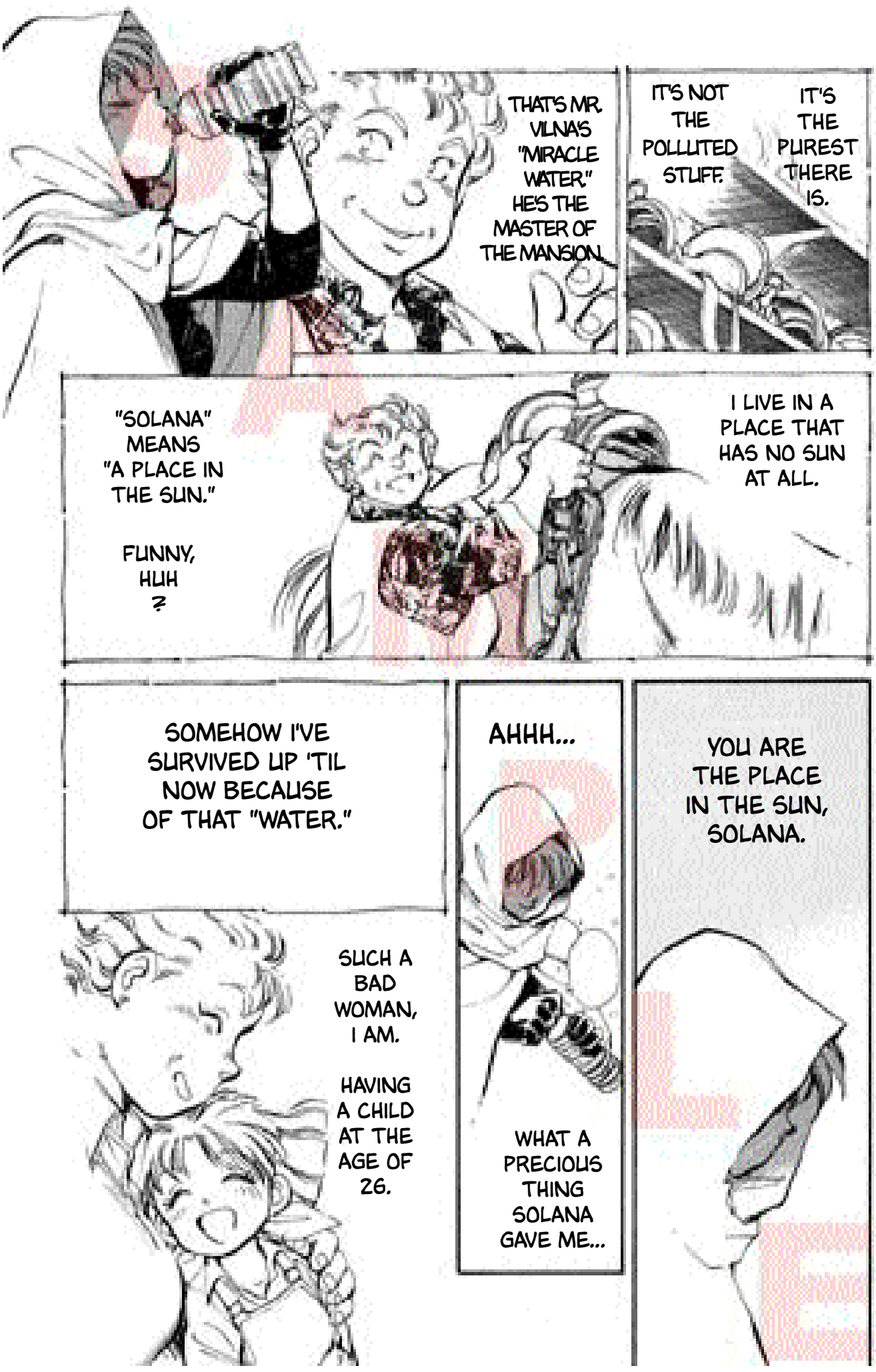

YOU GOING TO THE CASTLE?

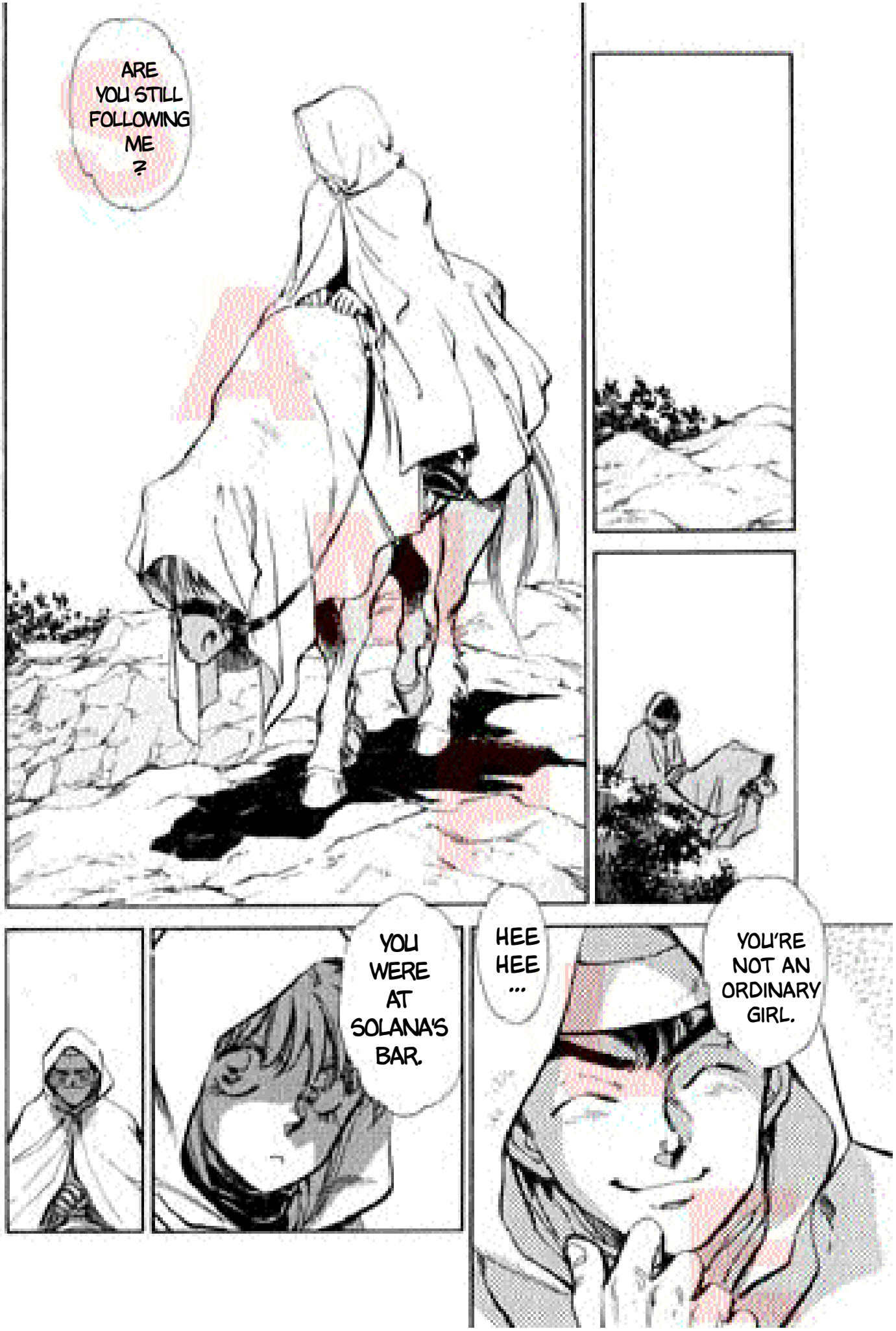

THIS IS FOR SAVING MY SHOP, AND US.
THOUGH IT MAY BE WORTHLESS TO SOMEONE WHO WORKS AT THE MANSION.
YOU'RE A GOOD FIGHTER.
GOING TO THE CASTLE ?
MISS ?
IF YOU STAY THERE ...
?
A WOMAN WHO CAN BEAR A CHILD AFTER 20 IS PRECIOUS.
MAY YOURS ...
AND PEPE'S FUTURE BE FILLED WITH LIGHT.
TRY NOT TO CHANGE ...
INTO SOMEONE SCARY.





ACT 2


THAT'S MR. VILNA'S "MIRACLE WATER." HE'S THE MASTER OF THE MANSION.
IT'S NOT THE POLLUTED STUFF.
IT'S THE PUREST THERE IS.
"SOLANA" MEANS "A PLACE IN THE SUN."
FUNNY, HUH ?
I LIVE IN A PLACE THAT HAS NO SUN AT ALL.
SOMEHOW I'VE SURVIVED UP 'TIL NOW BECAUSE OF THAT "WATER."
SUCH A BAD WOMAN, I AM.
HAVING A CHILD AT THE AGE OF 26.
AHHH...
WHAT A PRECIOUS THING SOLANA GAVE ME...
YOU ARE THE PLACE IN THE SUN, SOLANA.

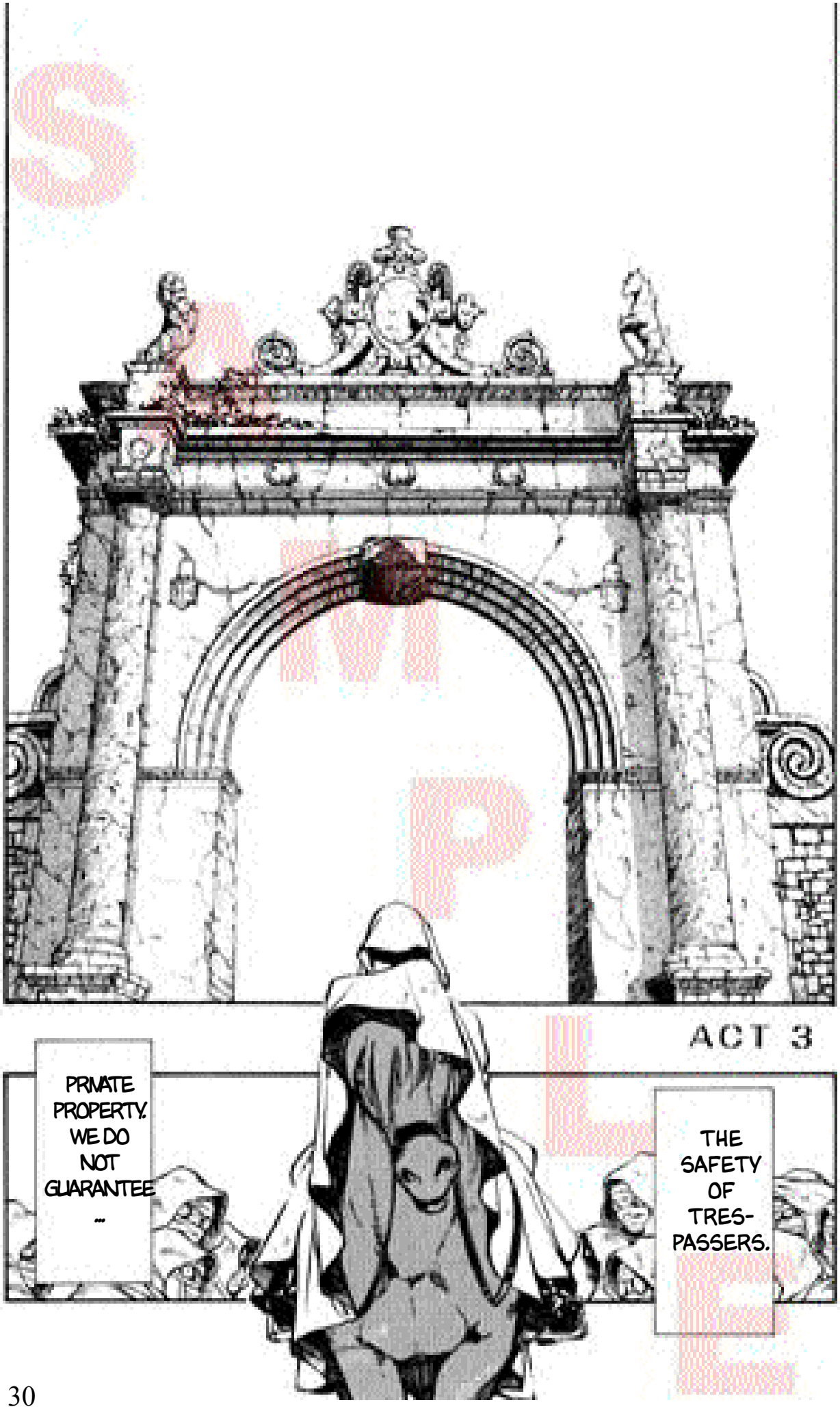

ARE YOU STILL FOLLOWING ME ?
YOU WERE AT SOLANA'S BAR.
HEE HEE ...
YOU'RE NOT AN ORDINARY GIRL.


YOU'RE A GUARD MAID, AREN'T YOU?
clop
WAIT.
I WANNA TALK TO YOU.
HAVEN'T YOU EVER HEARD OF THEM?
LISTEN.
MY PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING BECAUSE OF THEM.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF A MAN YOU'RE GOING TO SERVE?
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE CASTANZOS?
WATER IS SO SCARCE HERE.
THE CASTANZOS ...
ARE EXPLOITING THE NATIVES WITH THEIR SUPPLY.
THEY'RE A COLD-BLOODED FAMILY.
AND YOU'RE GONNA GUARD THEM? *PROTECT* THEM?

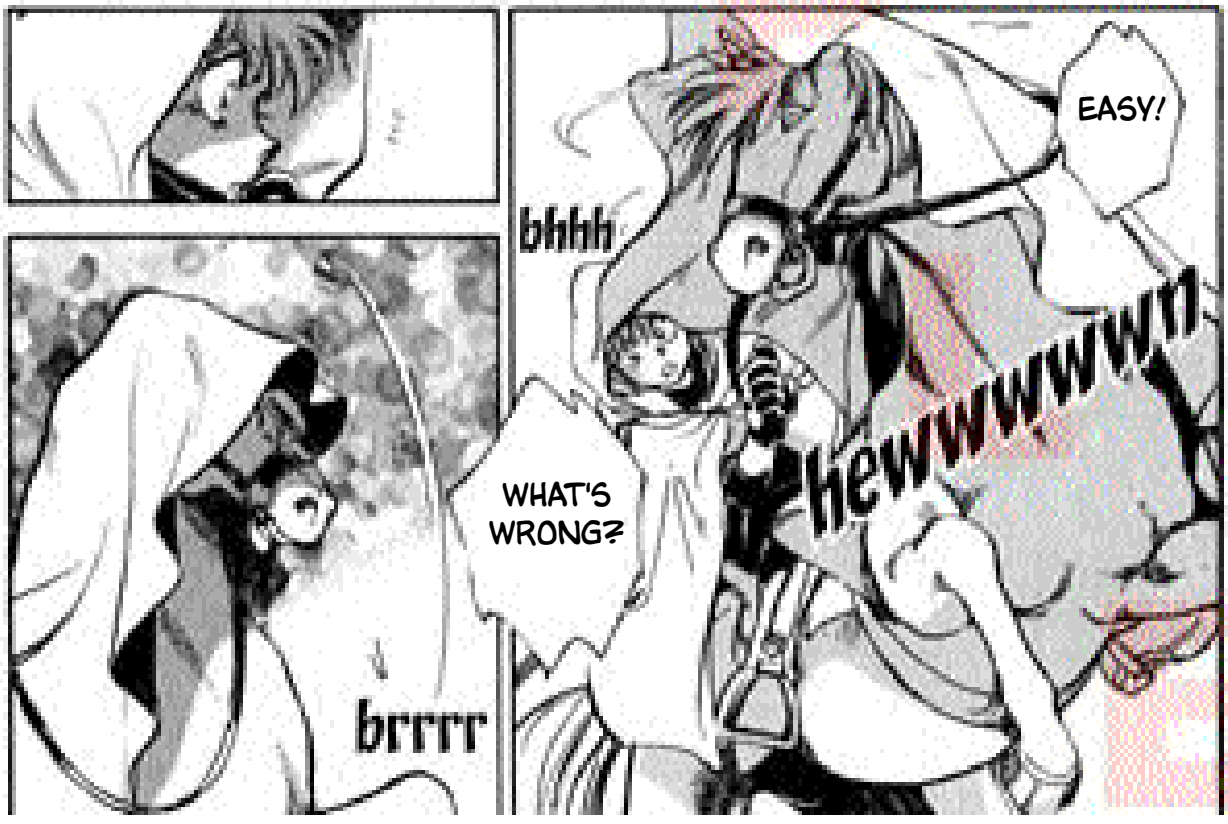

THEY TAKE OUR CHILDREN AWAY.
MOST OF US DESPISE THEM.
THE CASTANZOS ARE TRULY MERCILESS!
DOES IT MAKE YOU PROUD? TO PROTECT PEOPLE LIKE THAT?
YOU'LL BE PAID WELL. BUT YOU'RE A DOG IF YOU OBEY THEM.
.....
HEY!
BUT--
WAIT. YOU REALLY DON'T CARE?
YOU'LL JUST GO GUARD THOSE DEVILS?
IT'S NOT MY STYLE...
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
TO BELIEVE ONESIDED SLANDER.


WHETHER OR NOT THE CASTANZOS ARE EVIL ...
I WILL JUDGE FOR MYSELF. WITHOUT PREJUDICE.
ALL RIGHT.
I JUST HOPE YOU DON'T SUBMIT TO THE POWER OF THE MIRACLE WATER.
MY NAME IS TILGA.
REMEMBER ME.
SARAI.
SARAI KANNAGI.



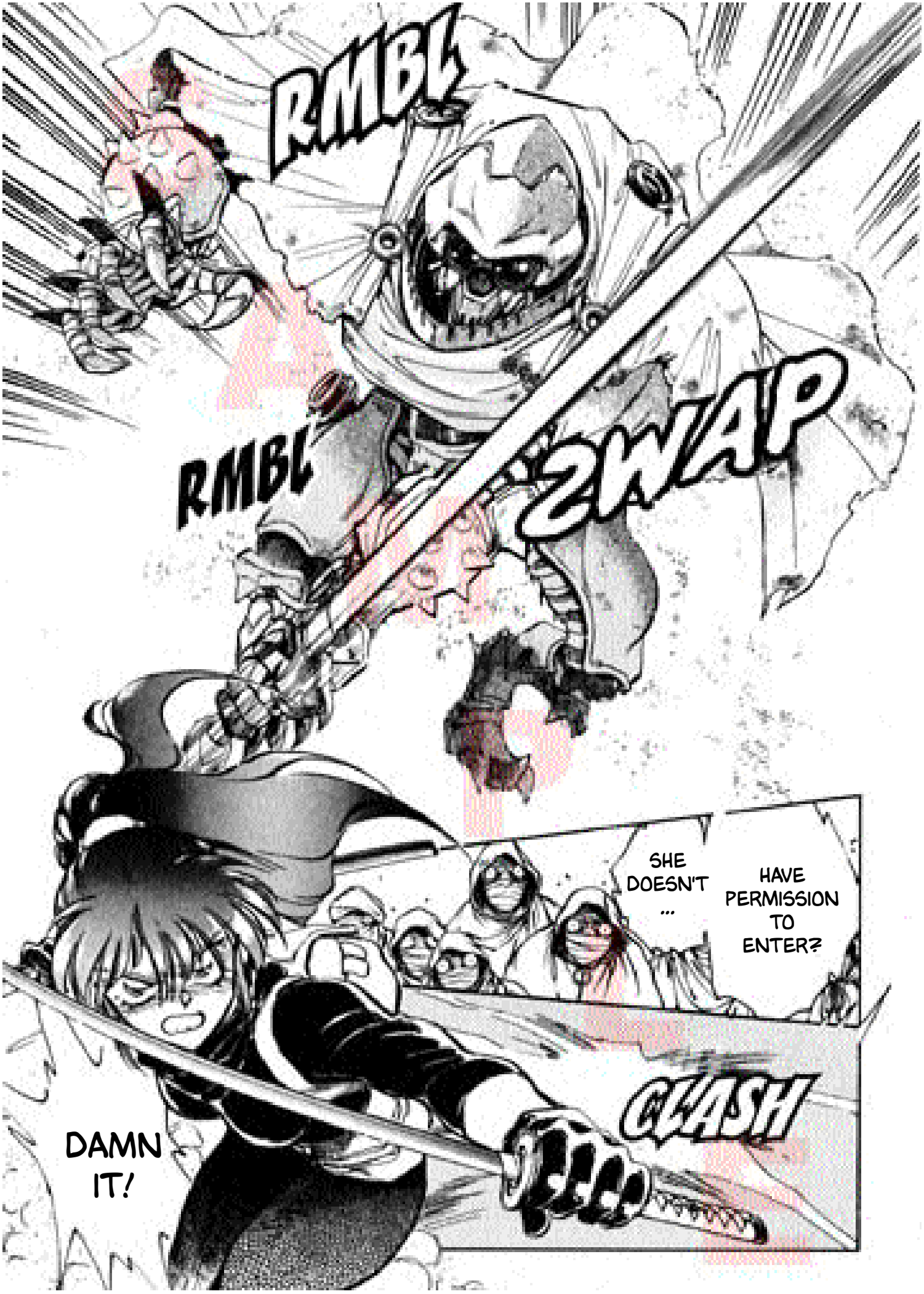

ACT 3
PRIVATE PROPERTY. WE DO NOT GUARANTEE ...
THE SAFETY OF TRES-PASSERS.


YOU ...
IF YOU'RE GOING TO THE MANSION ...
PLEASE ASK...
AND MY...
ASK ABOUT MY SON!
WATER!
WATER FOR US!
klip klop -


EASY!
bhhh
hewwwwwwn
WHAT'S WRONG?
brrrr

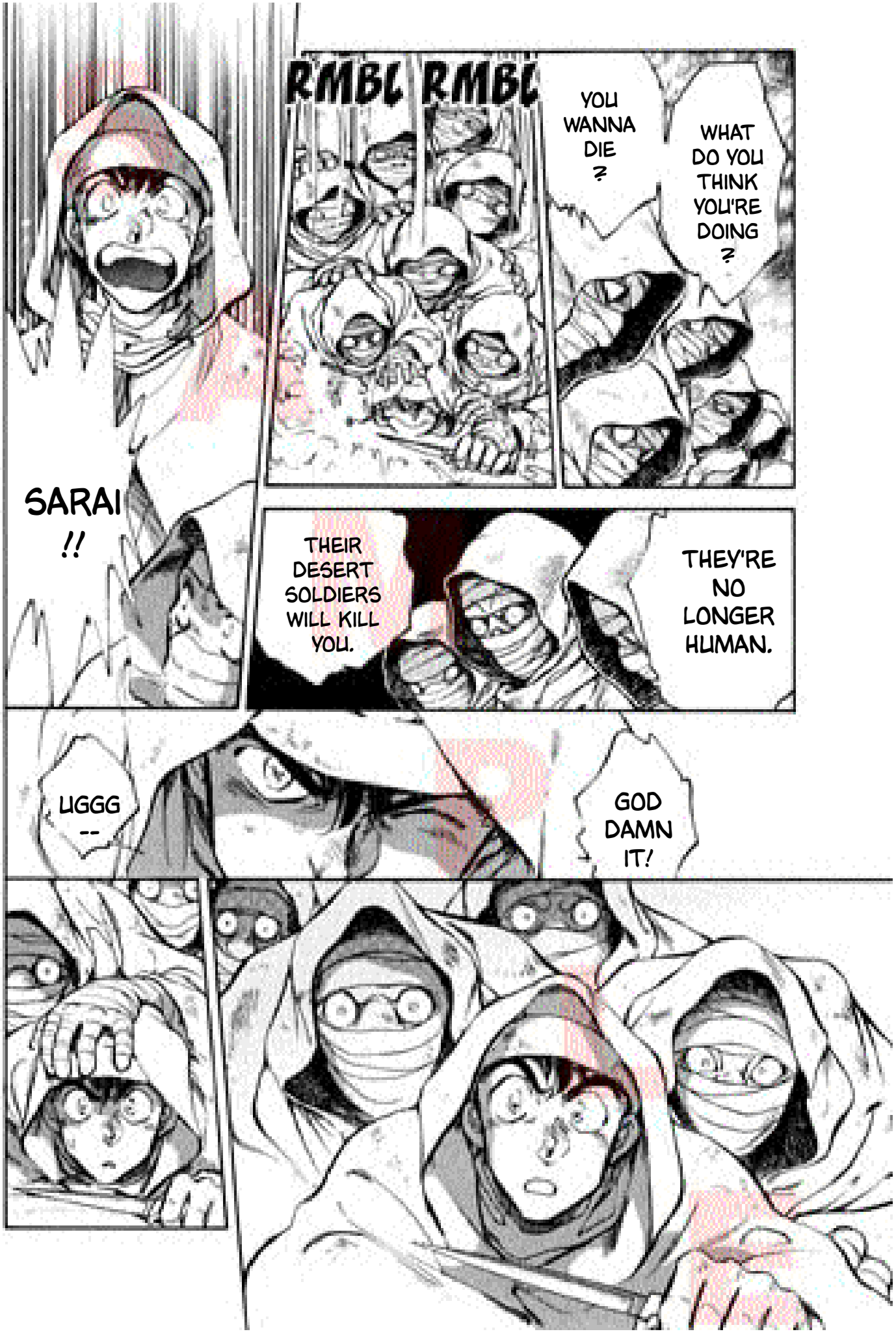

SKSCRASH!

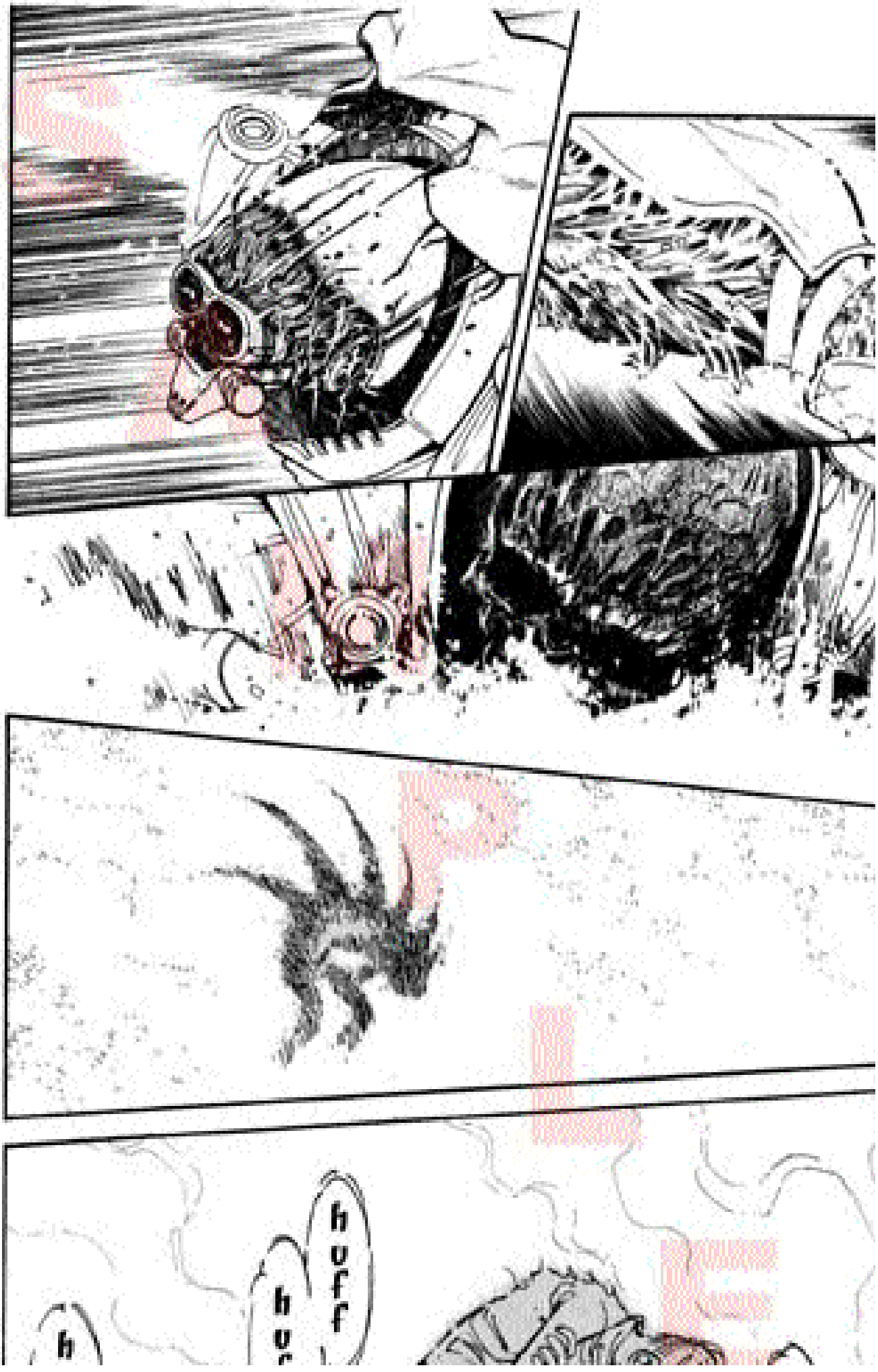

THUD
ZZZHHMM


RMBL
RMBL
SWAP
SHE DOESN'T ...
HAVE PERMISSION TO ENTER?
CLASH
DAMN IT!

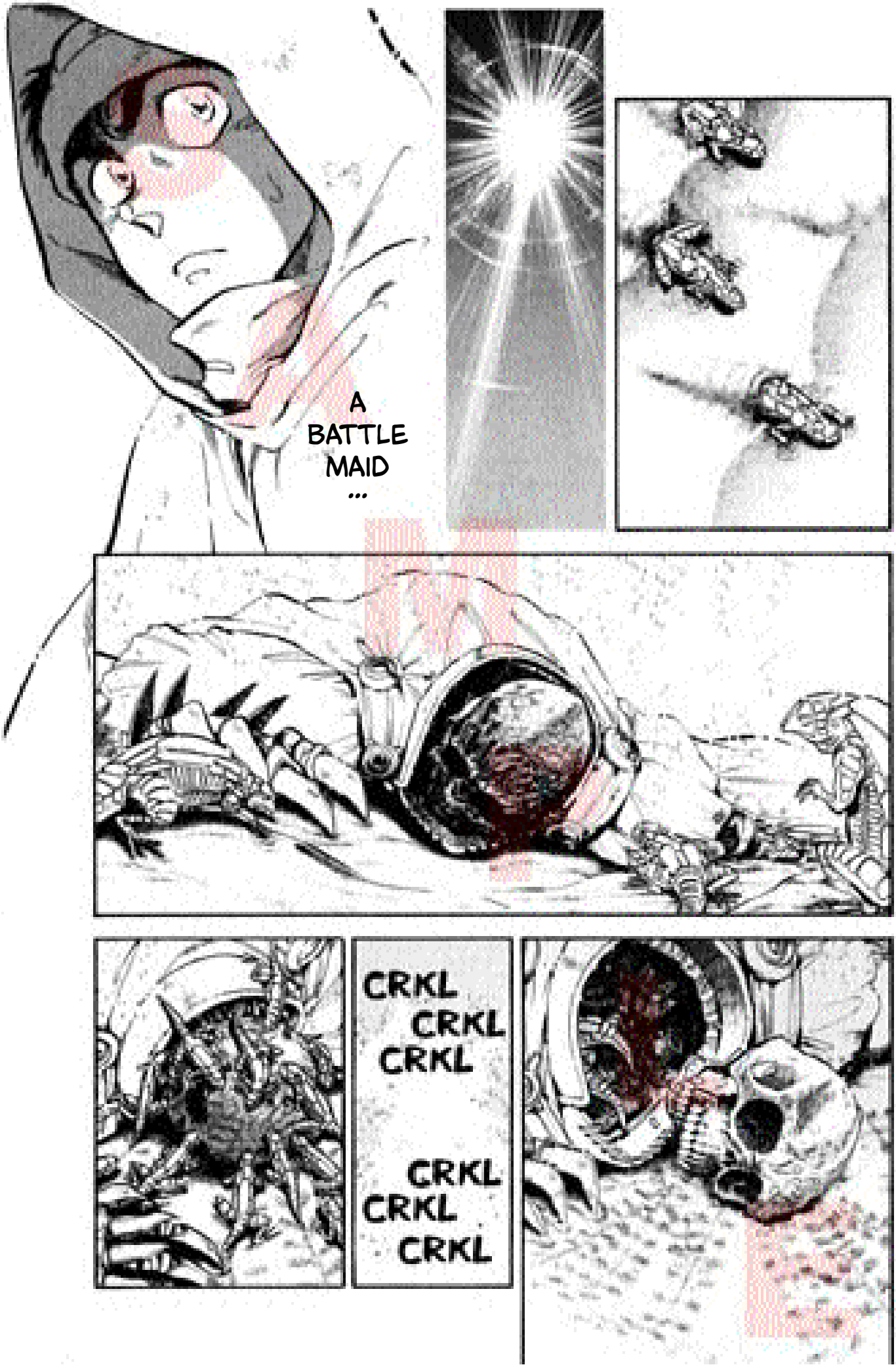

zhh—!
HUH ...
TOO HEAVY ...!
ZWOT
GWOT!
tiiiin!
KLUNK!
EEEEH!
FWIP!
SHIT!

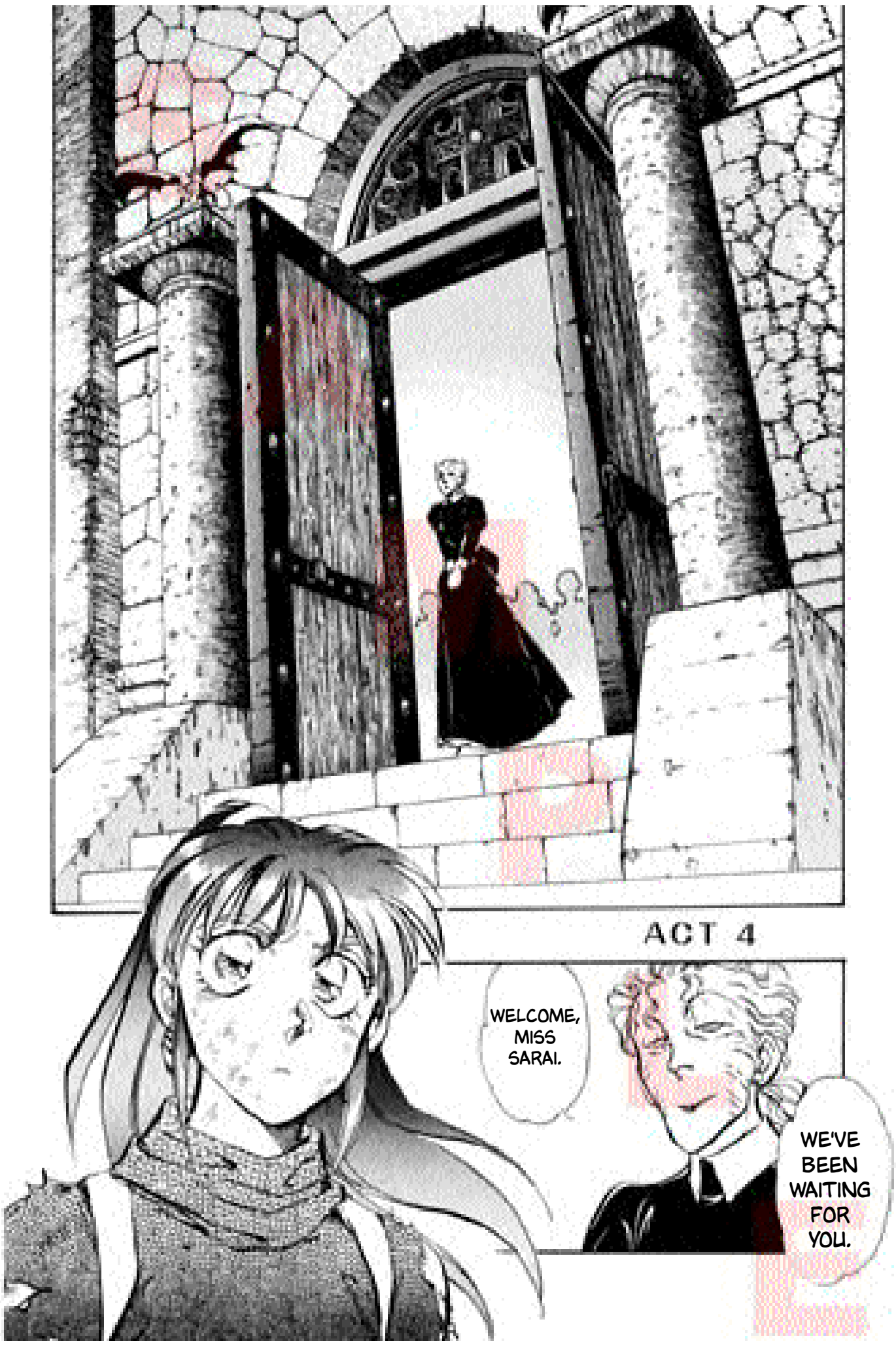


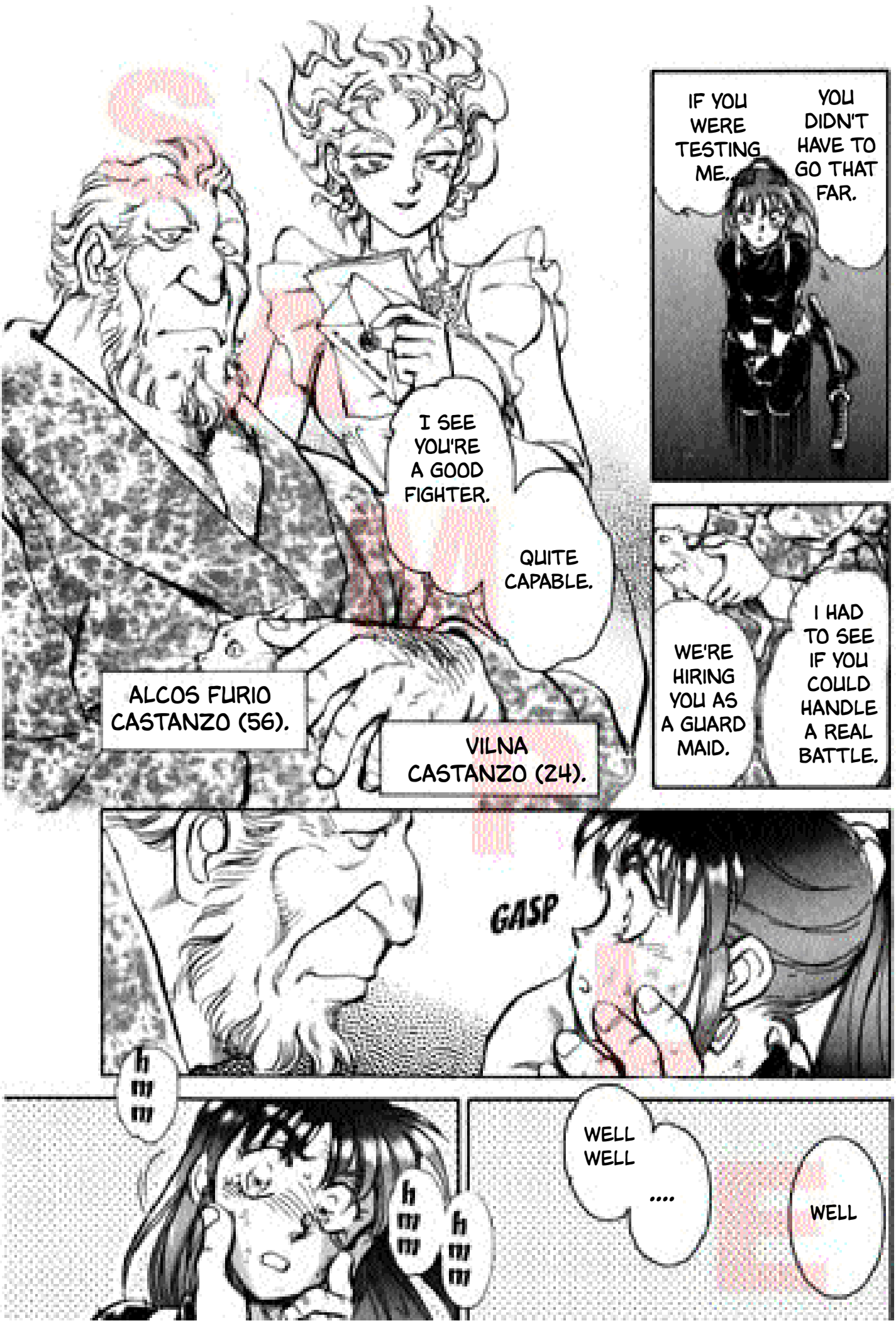

RMBL RMBL
YOU WANNA DIE ?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ?
SARAI !!
THEIR DESERT SOLDIERS WILL KILL YOU.
THEY'RE NO LONGER HUMAN.
UGGG --
GOD DAMN IT!


huff
huff
h


HOW COULD THEY!
WHAT HAPPENED? HUH?
TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED?!
I... I DON'T KNOW.
I DIDN'T SEE.


A
BATTLE
MAID
...
CRKL
CRKL
CRKL
CRKL
CRKL
CRKL


ACT 4
WELCOME, MISS SARAI.
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.


I SEE YOU'RE A GOOD FIGHTER.
QUITE CAPABLE.
ALCOS FURIO CASTANZO (56).
VILNA CASTANZO (24).
IF YOU WERE TESTING ME..
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO THAT FAR.
WE'RE HIRING YOU AS A GUARD MAID.
I HAD TO SEE IF YOU COULD HANDLE A REAL BATTLE.
GASP
hmm
hmm
hmm
WELL WELL
....
WELL


LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE PURE JAPANESE.
heh heh
HOW UNEX-PECTED. I HADN'T REALIZED ANY PURE JAPANESE STILL EXISTED.
MY, MY.
FATHER ...
YOU CAN PURSUE YOUR HOBBIES LATER.
EH ?
ha ha ha
YOU'RE RIGHT.
NOW, SARAI KANNAGI.
IF YOU WORK HERE, YOU MUST SWEAR YOUR LOYALTY TO US.
YES, MA' AM.
IT'S MY DUTY TO PROTECT YOU.
IT'S NOT JUST A "DUTY."
EVERY-ONE WHO WORKS HERE
MUST WEAR ONE OF *THESE.*

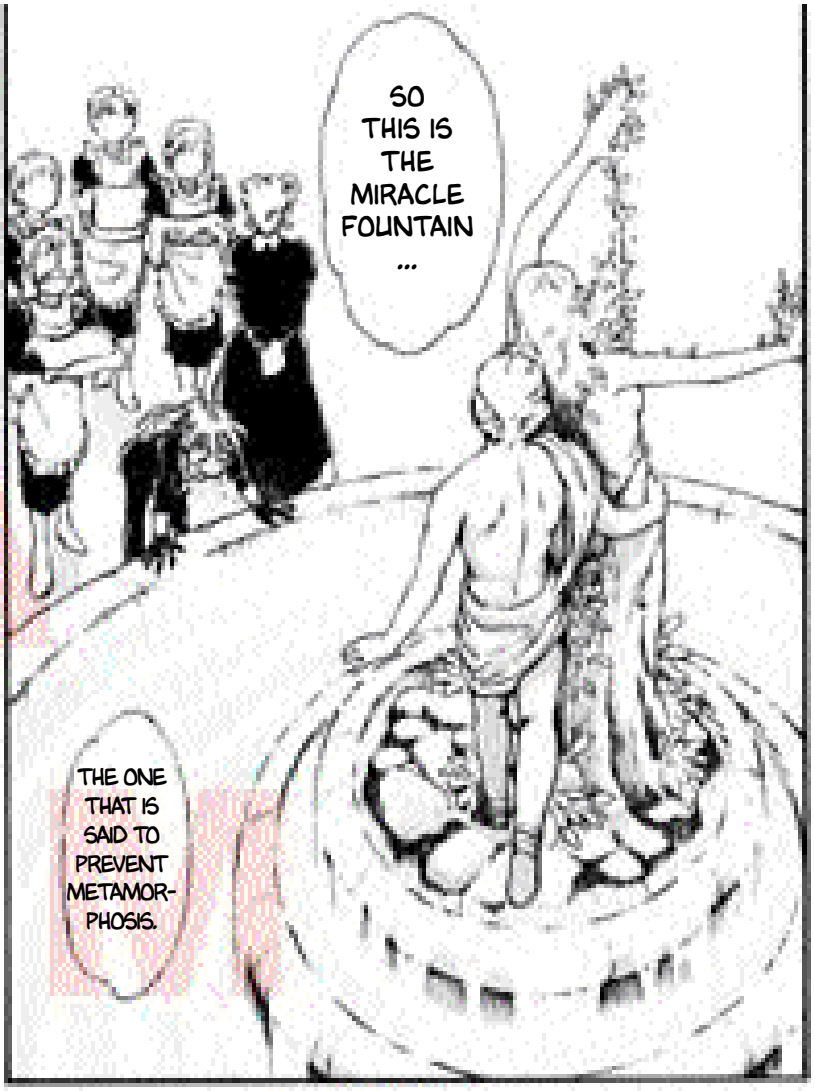

I ALWAYS GIVE MY FULL LOYALTY TO MY MASTER.
THAT'S REALLY NOT NECE-SARY.
WE NEED VISIBLE PROOF OF YOUR OATH.
BUT AN OATH WITH NO PROOF MEANS NOTHING.
IT'S NOT THAT WE DON'T TRUST YOU.
tap
YOU ARE A VERY PROUD GIRL.


THE PROOF OF OBEDIENCE.
CONGRATULATIONS, SARAI.
NOW
CLICK!
YOUR SPECIAL PRIVILEGES ARE GUARANTEED.
CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES AND FRESHEN YOURSELF UP.
MRS. HESSEN, THE HEAD MAID, WILL INSTRUCT YOU ON THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ESTATE.

ACT 5



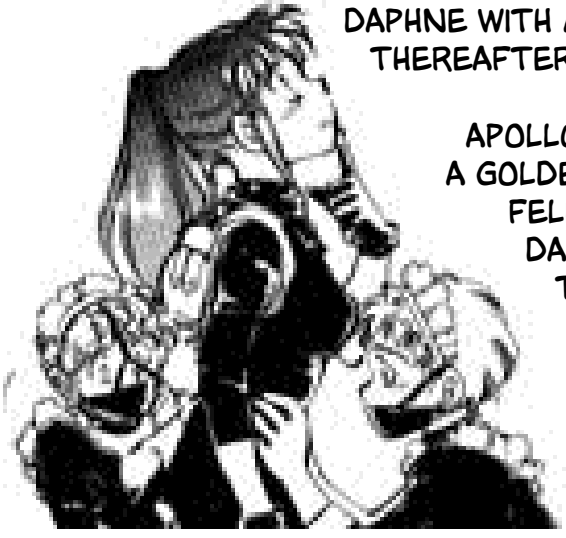


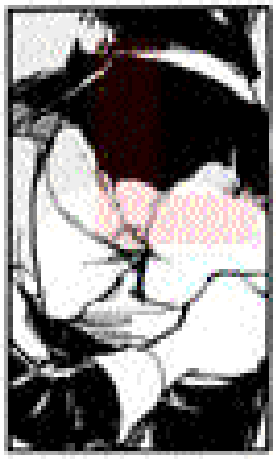


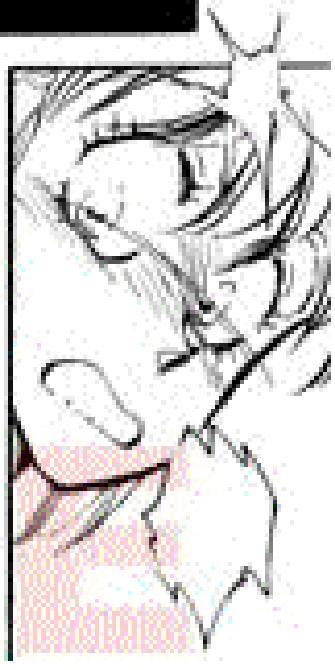




EROS, THE MISCHIEF-MAKER, SHOT DAPHNE WITH A LEAD ARROW. THEREAFTER SHE REFUSED TO BE LOVED. APOLLO WAS SHOT BY A GOLDEN ARROW AND FELL IN LOVE WITH DAPHNE. AT LAST, TO ESCAPE HIM, SHE CHANGED INTO A BAY TREE.



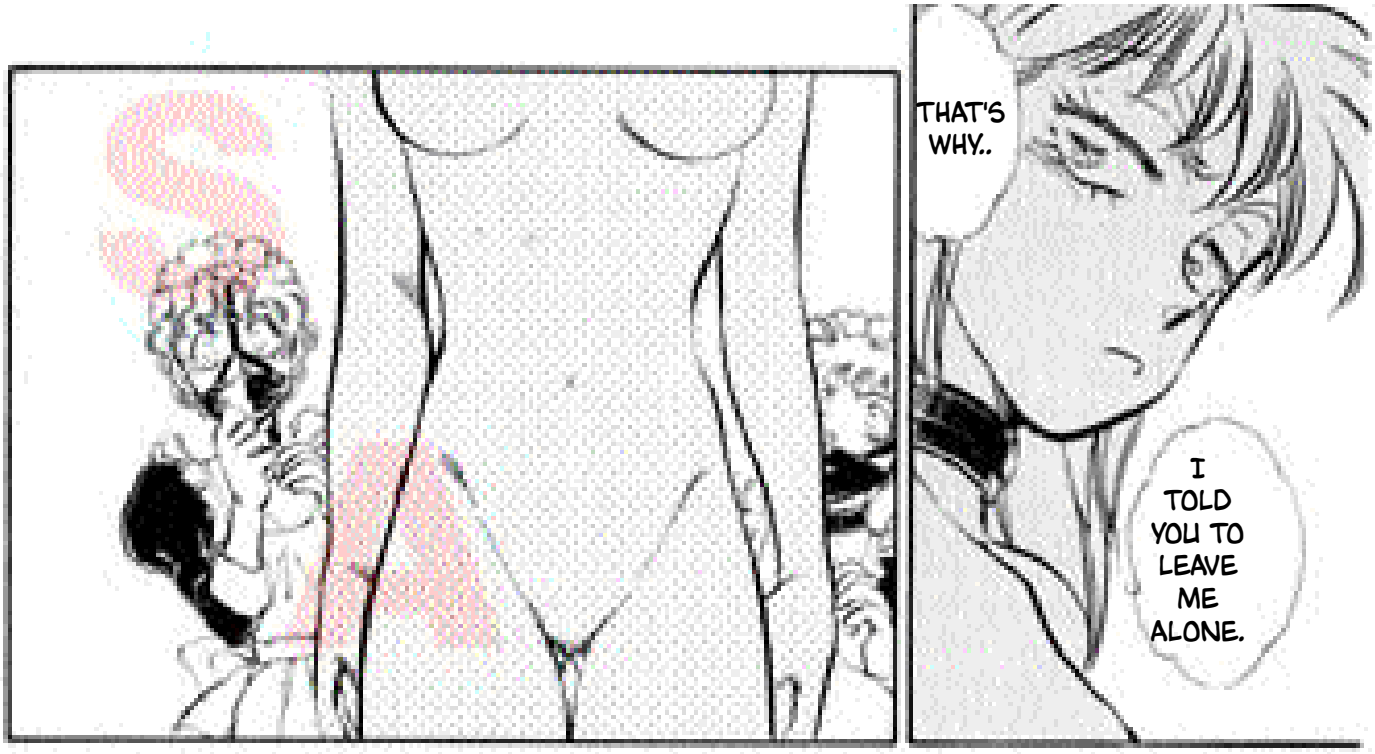





WAIT.
WAIT A MINUTE!
I CAN CHANGE MY CLOTHES MYSELF.
EEEEH.
LEAVE ME ALONE. WAIT !!
STOP !!
YOU'RE MAKING ME MAD!
SQUEEZ
WHY ?
WHY ARE YOU CRYING ?
BECAUSE NONE OF THEM CAN DISOBEY MISS VILNA'S ORDERS.


WHY--
WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
THAT'S EXACTLY THE QUESTION I WANT TO ASK YOU!!
I WAS NEVER TOLD YOU'D BE MY PARTNER!!
NEITHER WAS I!
I HAVE SENIORITY HERE M'KAY?
DON'T GET IN MY WAY
FLICKER!!
IF YOU ---
TRY TO DISOBEY
THE MASTER OR TAKE OFF THE COLLAR---


IT GOES BOOM, DOESN'T IT?
HOW'D YOU KNOW?
I'M A GOOD GUESSER.
IF YOU KNOW THAT ...
DON'T TELL THE OTHER MAIDS. YOU'LL SCARE THEM.


THAT'S WHY..
I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE ME ALONE.

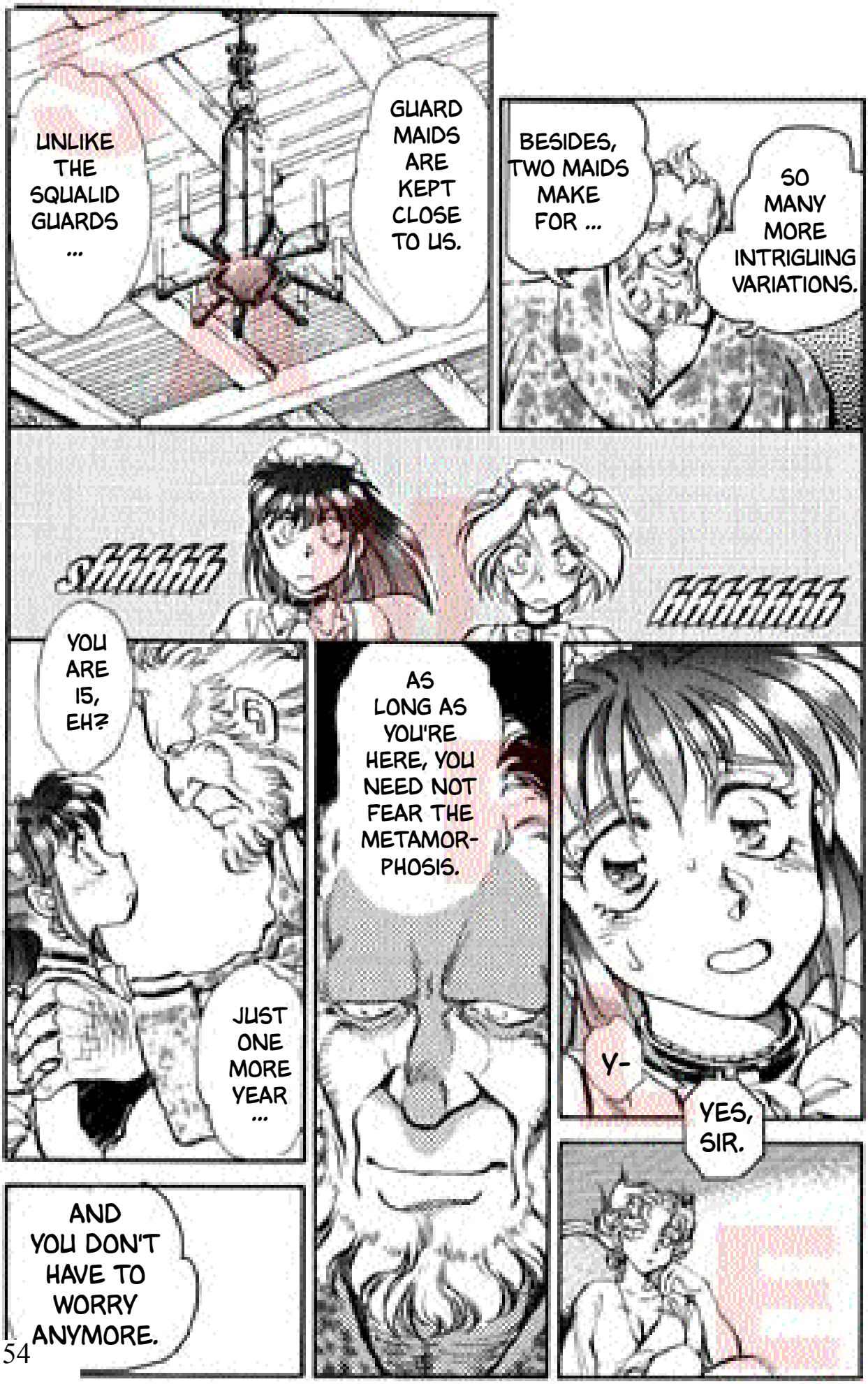
ACT 6


REALLY ?
YOU COULDN'T STOP HER ?

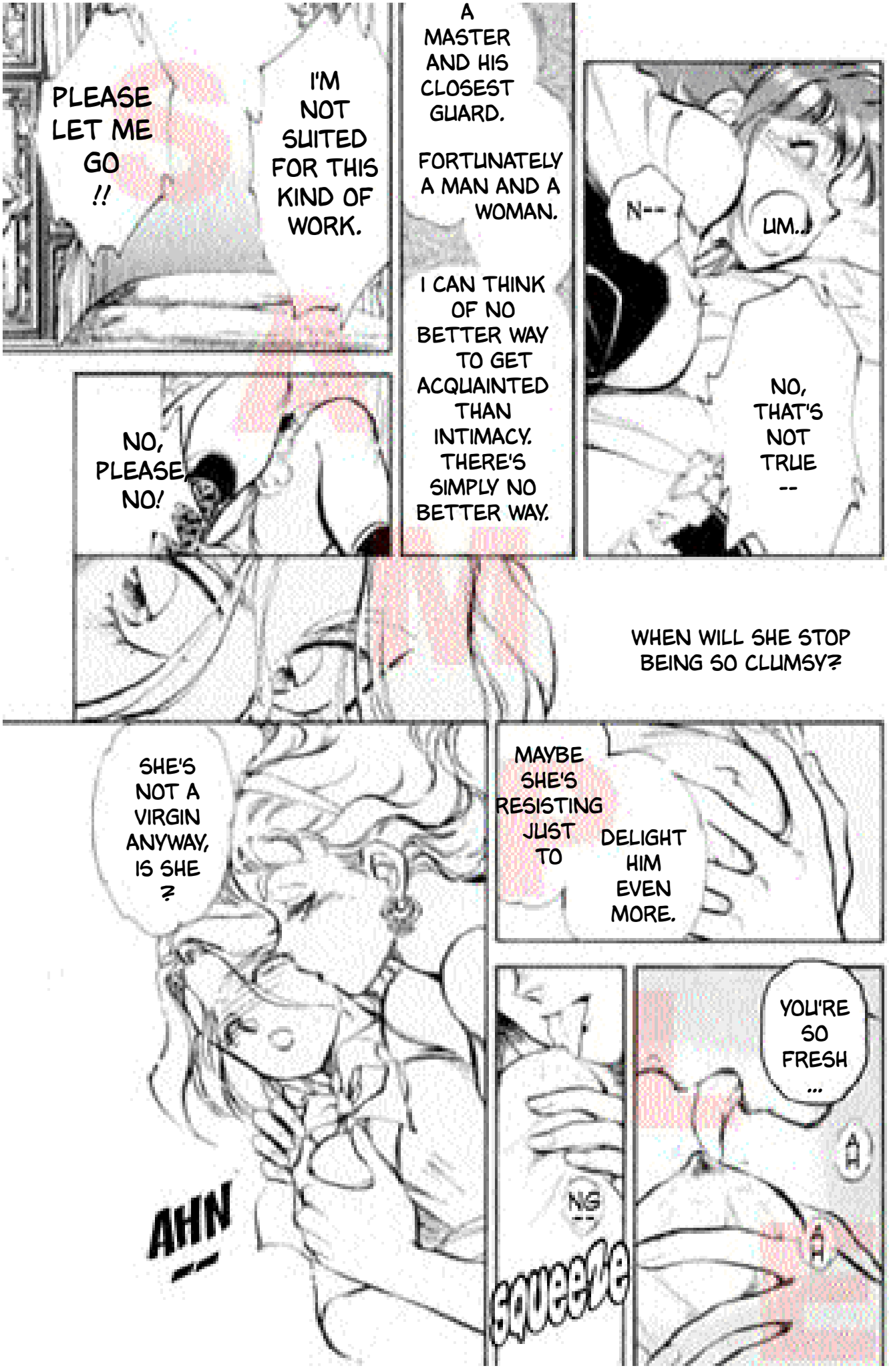

SHE WOULDN'T LISTEN.
GIGANTS AREN'T SUCH A PROBLEM.
BUT HOW DID SHE MANAGE TO KILL THREE SOLDIERS WITH HER BARE HANDS ?


SHE ACCEPTED THE MESSAGE, DIDN'T SHE?
YEAH.
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE.
SHE WILL SOON SEE THE TRUE FACE OF THE CASTANZOS.
THERE'S STILL HOPE, THEN.
.....
YEEEE
KAKAKAKA!!
FLORA-- IT'S STAR-TED, HUH?
THEY SAY TONIGHT IS THE CRITICAL TIME.
A SPORADIC DISEASE IS...
SO VERY AWFUL.


I THOUGHT YOU TWO...
...WOULD MAKE STRONG PARTNERS.
THERE'S A PERSONALITY CLASH.
DO YOU REALLY NEED TWO OF US?
YOU HAVE SO MANY GUARDS AND SOLDIERS.
WE HAVE MANY ENEMIES.

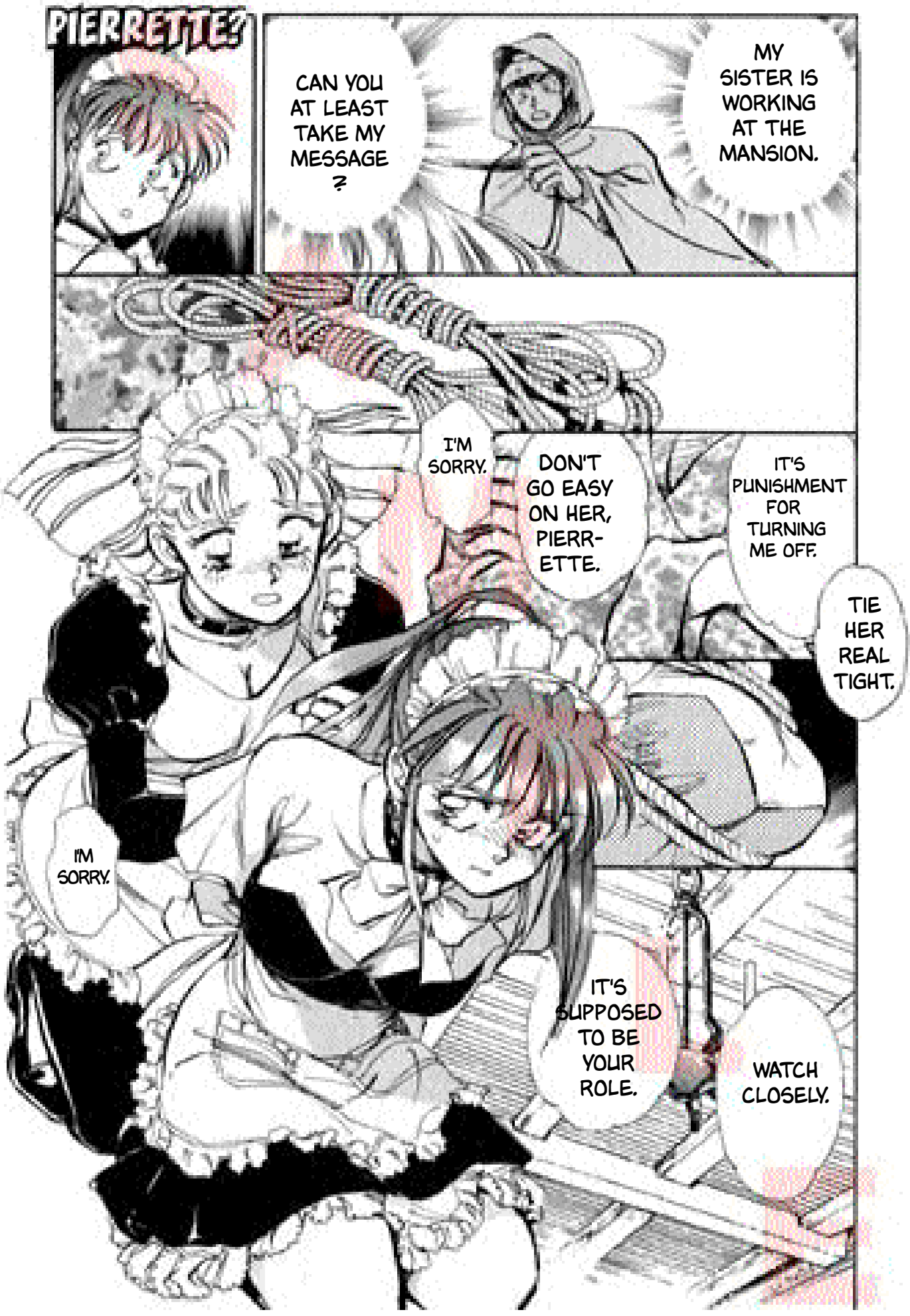

UNLIKE THE SQUALID GUARDS ...
GUARD MAIDS ARE KEPT CLOSE TO US.
BESIDES, TWO MAIDS MAKE FOR ...
SO MANY MORE INTRIGUING VARIATIONS.
SHHHHH
AHHHHHH
YOU ARE 15, EH?
JUST ONE MORE YEAR ...
AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE, YOU NEED NOT FEAR THE METAMOR-PHOSIS.
Y-
YES, SIR.
AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ANYMORE.

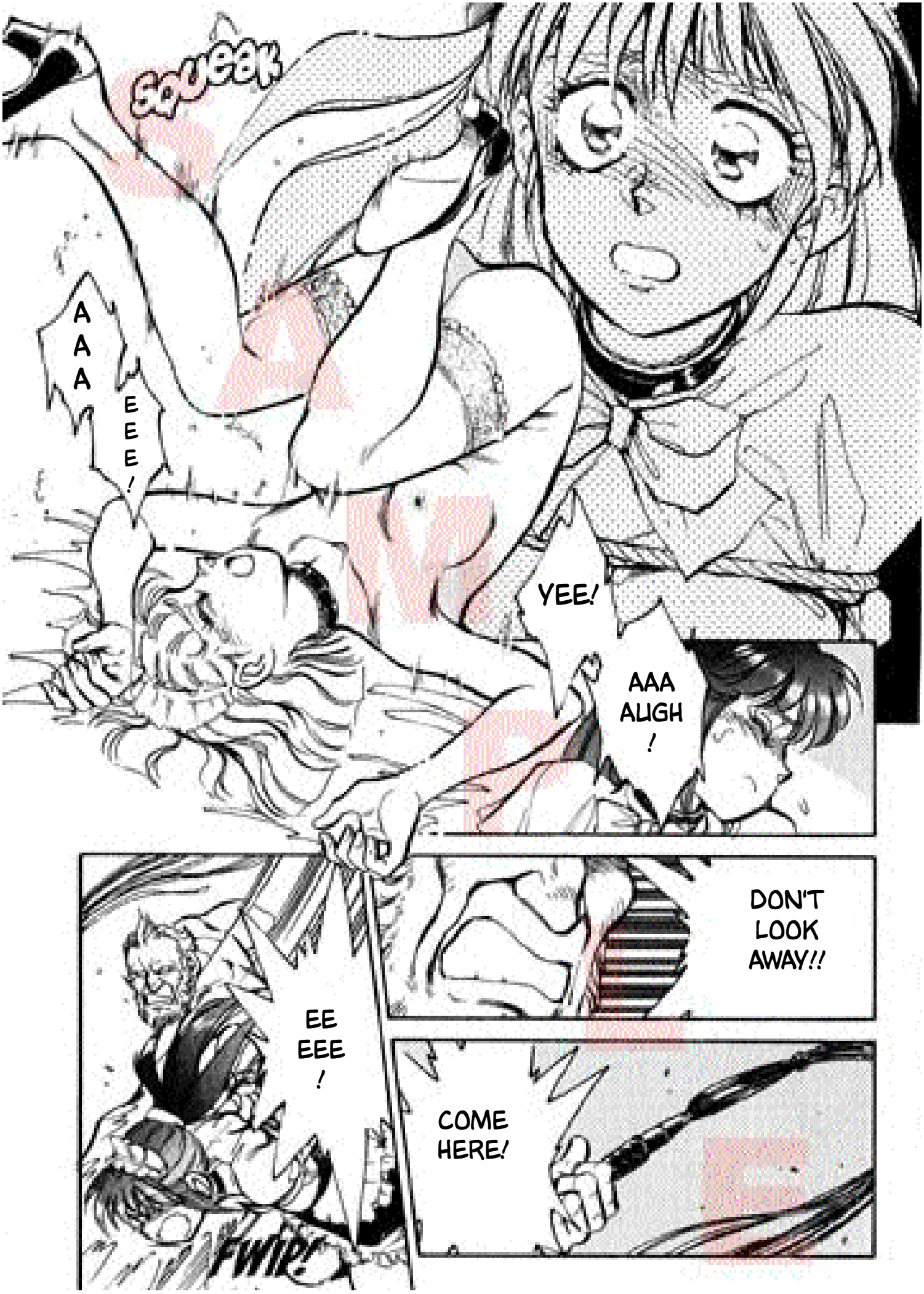

GASP!
UH--
SIR...
FWIP!
IN ORDINARY GIRLS, YOU NEVER FIND...
TIGHT, FLEXIBLE BODIES AND GREAT PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES LIKE THIS.
P-PLEASE-WAIT, SIR--
THEY ARE DETERMINED TO RISK THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR MASTER.
AND THEY HAVE...
DRIVE, WILL-POWER, STRONG MORAL VALUES...
BUT--
PLEASE...
PLEASE WAIT...
MASTER!!
AS A JAPANESE GIRL...
THUD
YOUR SCARCITY MAKES YOU VALUABLE.


PLEASE LET ME GO !!
I'M NOT SUITED FOR THIS KIND OF WORK.
A MASTER AND HIS CLOSEST GUARD.
FORTUNATELY A MAN AND A WOMAN.
I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER WAY TO GET ACQUAINTED THAN INTIMACY. THERE'S SIMPLY NO BETTER WAY.
N--
UM..
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE --
NO, PLEASE, NO!
WHEN WILL SHE STOP BEING SO CLUMSY?
SHE'S NOT A VIRGIN ANYWAY, IS SHE ?
MAYBE SHE'S RESISTING JUST TO DELIGHT HIM EVEN MORE.
AHN --
NG --
gaueede
YOU'RE SO FRESH ...
A
A

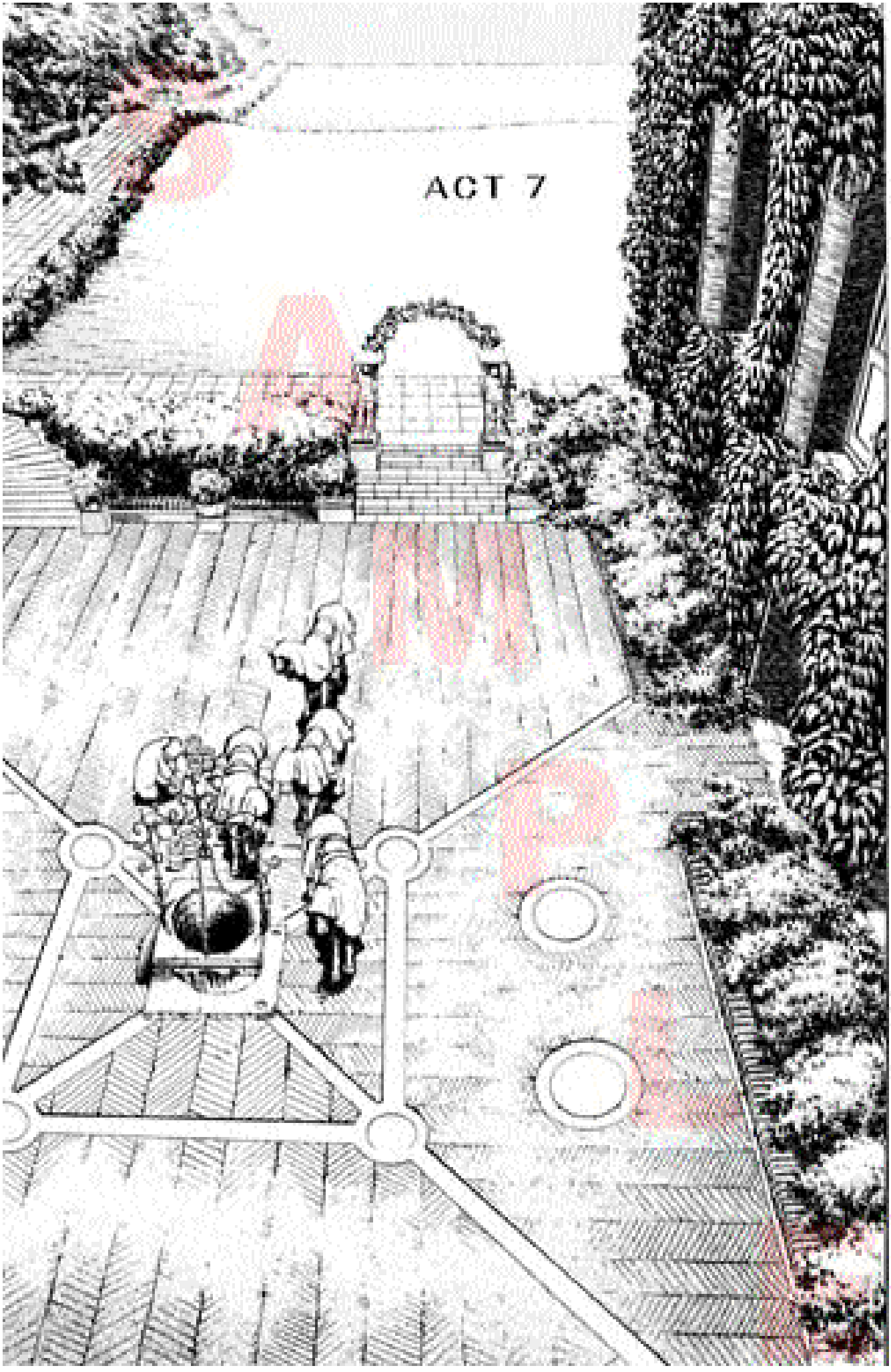

-- AND CUTE.
HEE HEE
YOU'RE SO CUTE, FLICKER.
YOU'RE SO GOOD ...
CHEE
FLICKER!

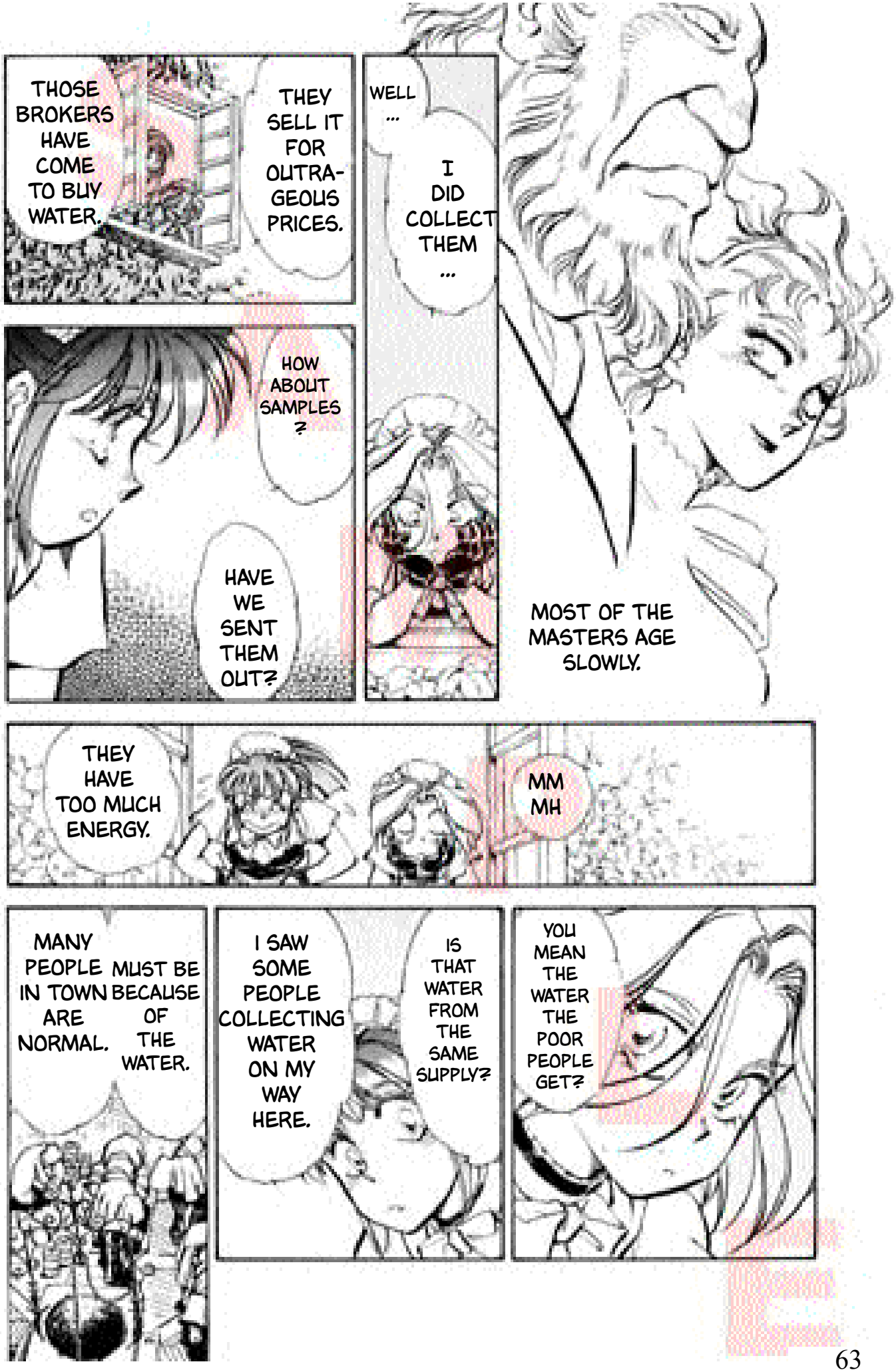

I TOLD YOU.
DO YOU STILL ...
DESIRE ME, SIR?
DREAD-FUL!!
GET DRESSED !!
CALL ... PIERRETTE !!!

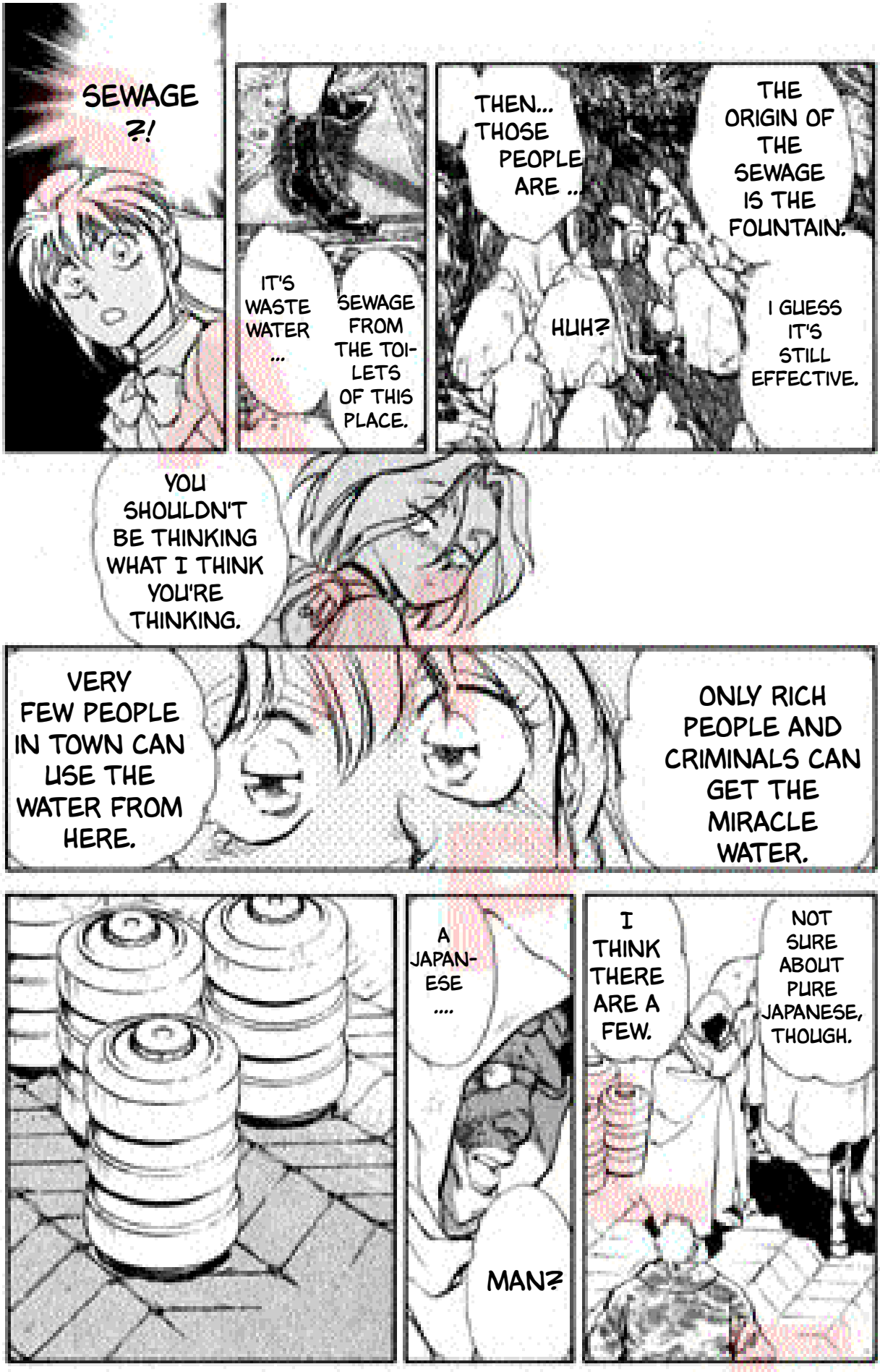

PIERRETTE?
CAN YOU AT LEAST TAKE MY MESSAGE ?
MY SISTER IS WORKING AT THE MANSION.
I'M SORRY.
DON'T GO EASY ON HER, PIERR-ETTE.
IT'S PUNISHMENT FOR TURNING ME OFF.
TIE HER REAL TIGHT.
I'M SORRY.
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR ROLE.
WATCH CLOSELY.

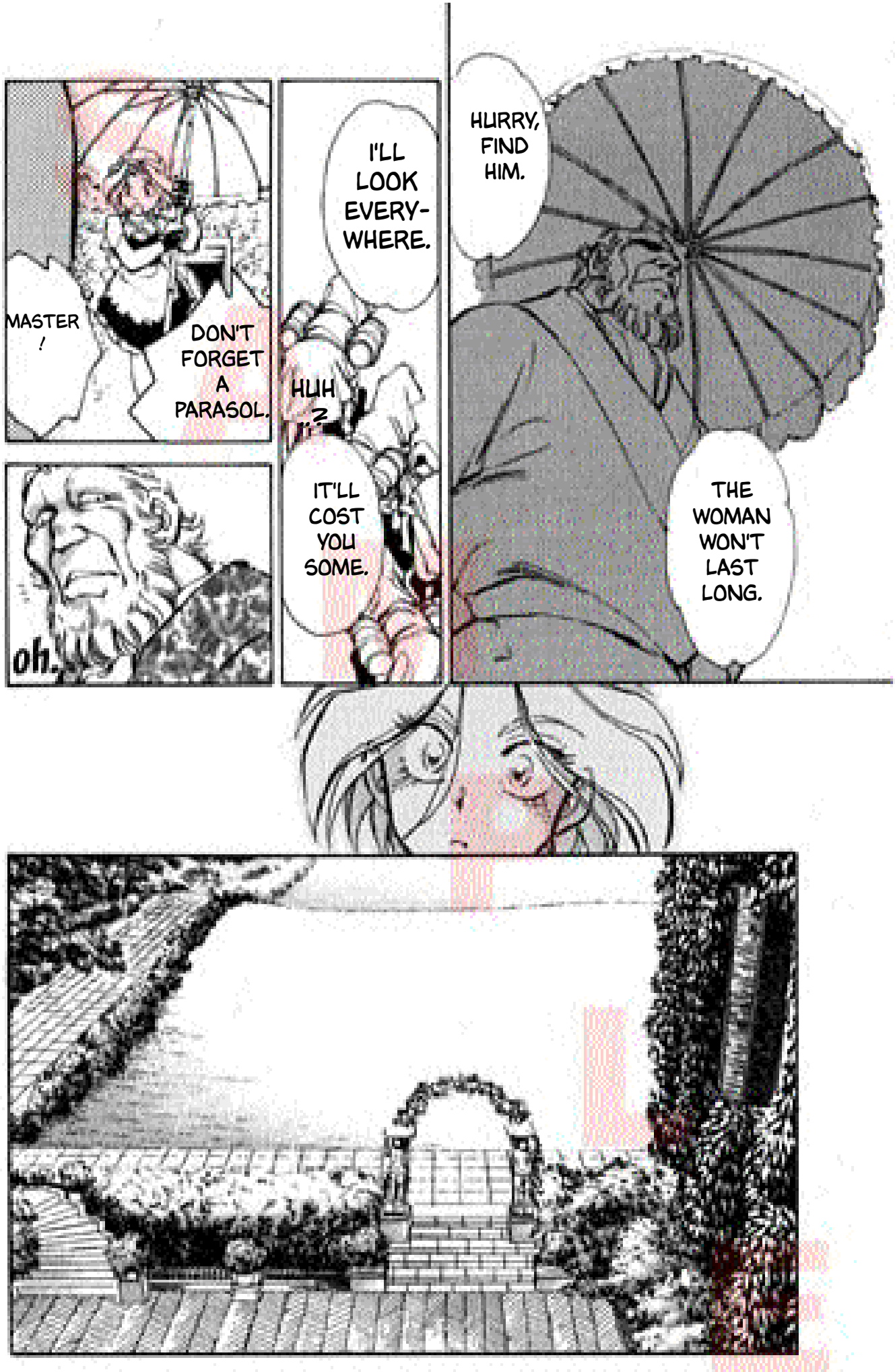

squeak
AAA EEE!
YEE!
AAA AUGH!
DON'T LOOK AWAY!!
EE EEE!
COME HERE!
FWIP!

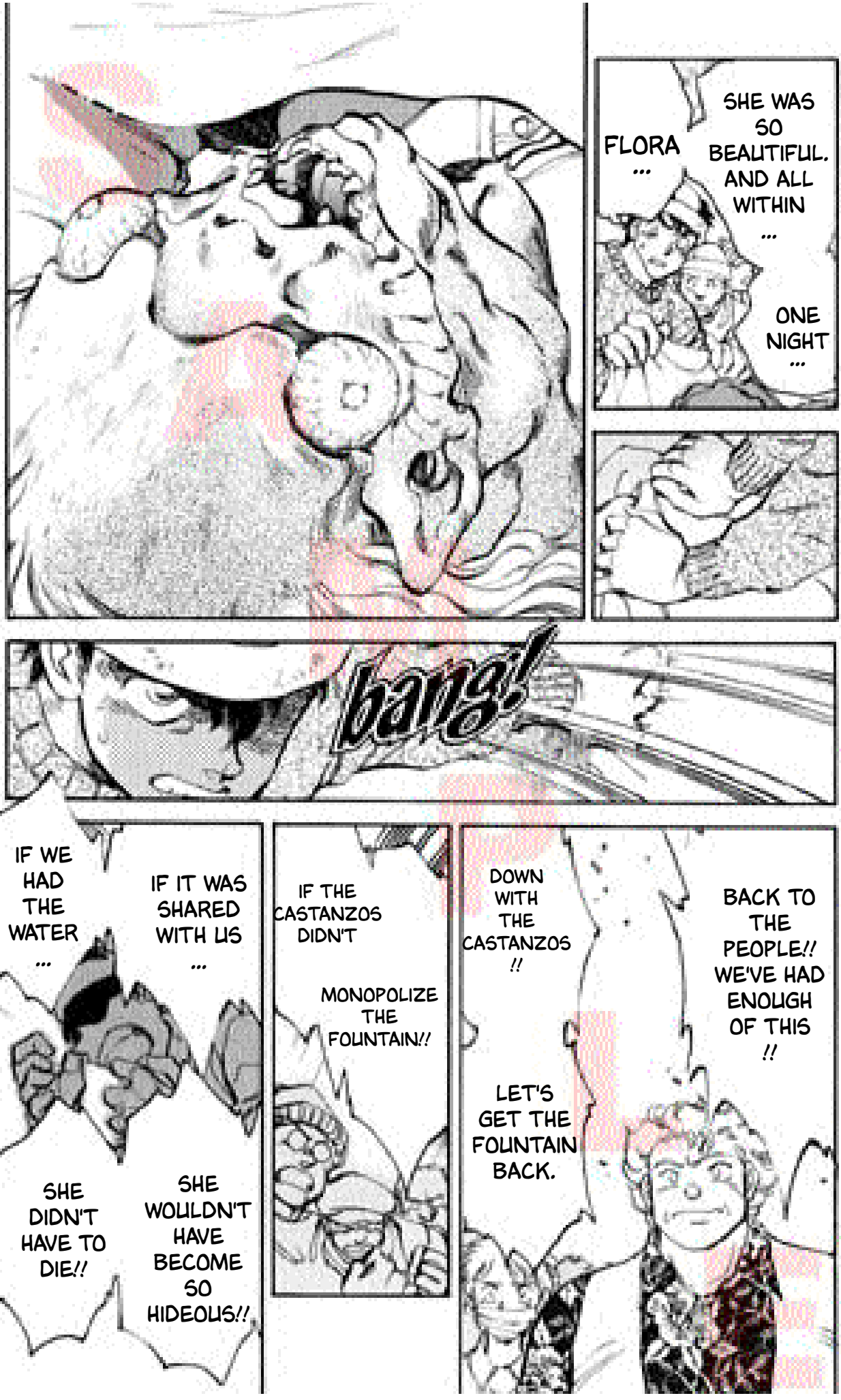

THERE! HAUGH! ...
FWAP!
FWAP!
LIFT YOUR ASS HIGHER!
SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME.
FWAP


ACT 7


THOSE BROKERS HAVE COME TO BUY WATER.
THEY SELL IT FOR OUTRA-GEOUS PRICES.
WELL ...
I DID COLLECT THEM ...
HOW ABOUT SAMPLES ?
HAVE WE SENT THEM OUT?
MOST OF THE MASTERS AGE SLOWLY.
THEY HAVE TOO MUCH ENERGY.
MM MH
MANY PEOPLE IN TOWN ARE NORMAL.
MUST BE BECAUSE OF THE WATER.
I SAW SOME PEOPLE COLLECTING WATER ON MY WAY HERE.
IS THAT WATER FROM THE SAME SUPPLY?
YOU MEAN THE WATER THE POOR PEOPLE GET?


SEWAGE ?!
IT'S WASTE WATER ...
SEWAGE FROM THE TOILETS OF THIS PLACE.
THEN... THOSE PEOPLE ARE ...
HUH?
THE ORIGIN OF THE SEWAGE IS THE FOUNTAIN.
I GUESS IT'S STILL EFFECTIVE.
YOU SHOULDN'T BE THINKING WHAT I THINK YOU'RE THINKING.
VERY FEW PEOPLE IN TOWN CAN USE THE WATER FROM HERE.
ONLY RICH PEOPLE AND CRIMINALS CAN GET THE MIRACLE WATER.
A JAPANESE ....
MAN?
I THINK THERE ARE A FEW.
NOT SURE ABOUT PURE JAPANESE, THOUGH.

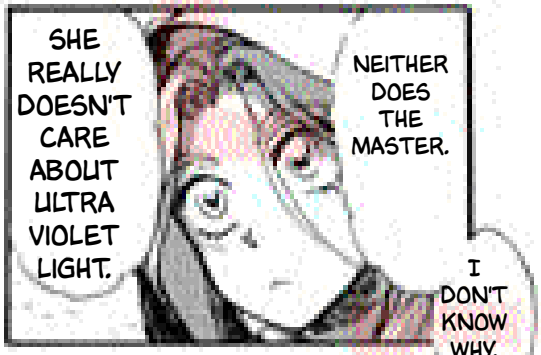

MASTER !
DON'T FORGET A PARASOL.
oh.
I'LL LOOK EVERY-WHERE.
HUH !?
IT'LL COST YOU SOME.
HURRY, FIND HIM.
THE WOMAN WON'T LAST LONG.

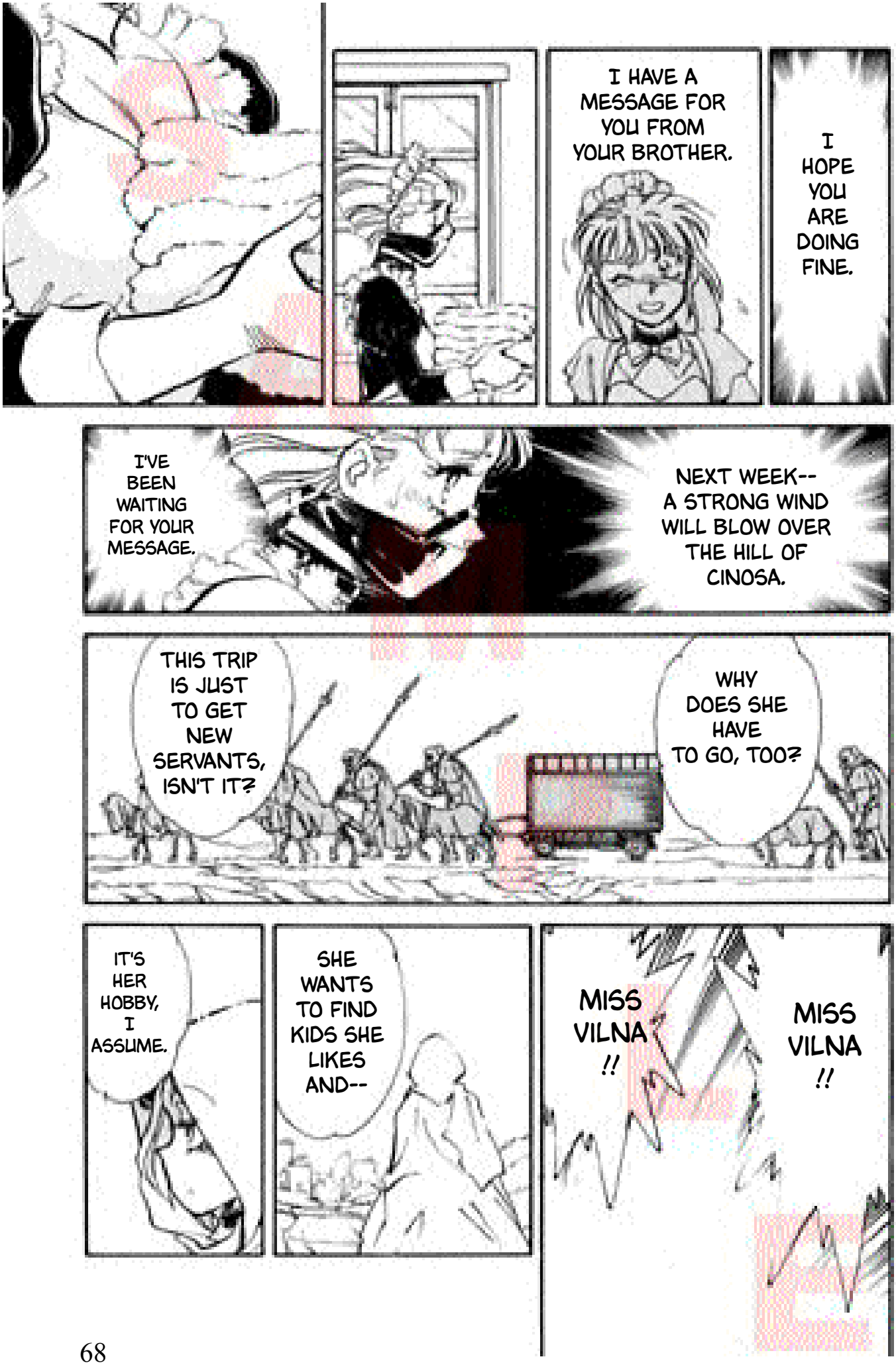

FLORA ...
SHE WAS SO BEAUTIFUL. AND ALL WITHIN ...
ONE NIGHT ...
bang!
IF WE HAD THE WATER ...
IF IT WAS SHARED WITH US ...
SHE DIDN'T HAVE TO DIE!!
SHE WOULDN'T HAVE BECOME SO HIDEOUS!!
IF THE CASTANZOS DIDN'T
MONOPOLIZE THE FOUNTAIN!!
DOWN WITH THE CASTANZOS !!
LET'S GET THE FOUNTAIN BACK.
BACK TO THE PEOPLE!! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS !!

ACT 8




DOES MISS VILNA GO OUT ALL THE TIME?
UNDER HARSH ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT LIKE THIS?

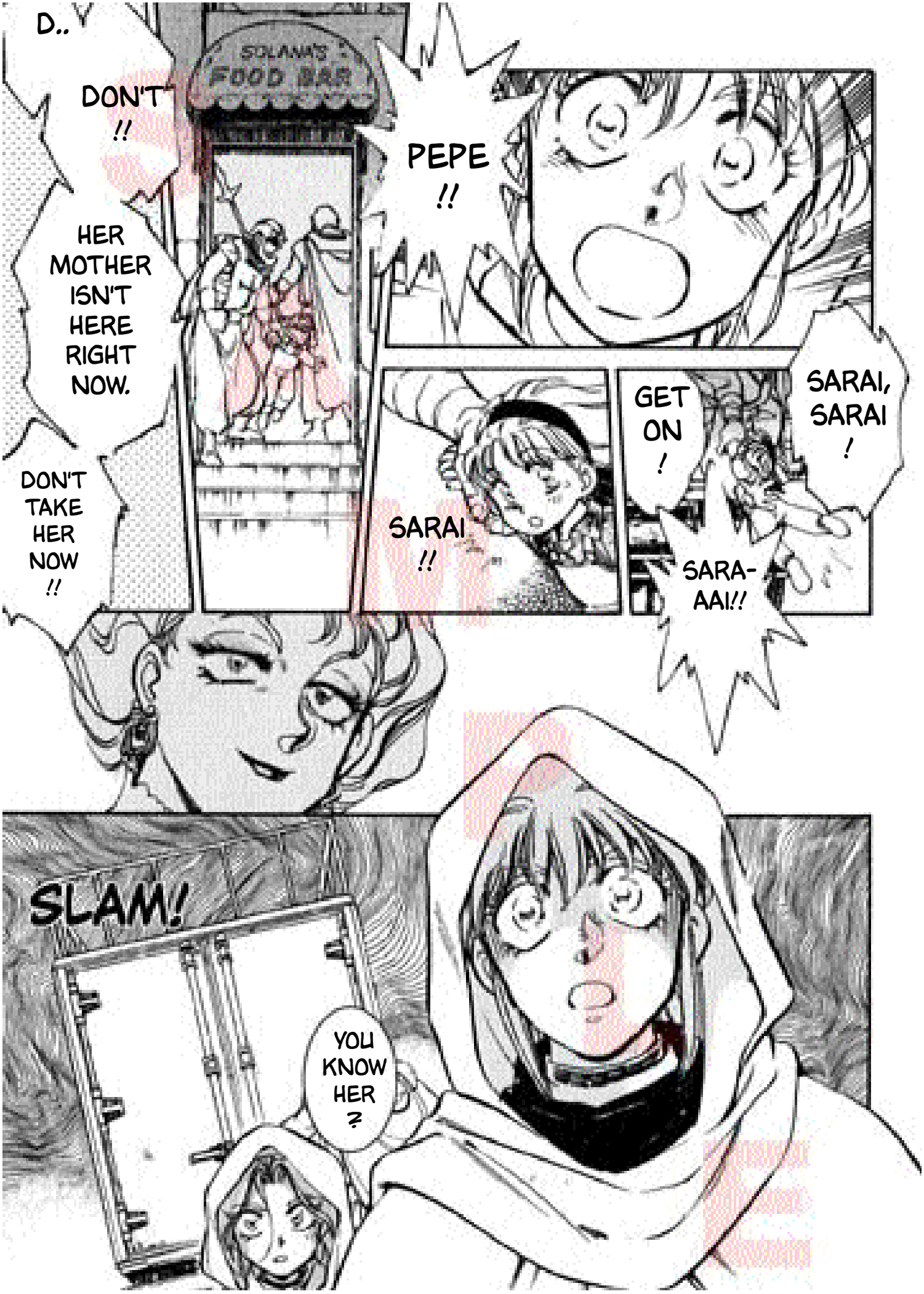

SHE REALLY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT.
NEITHER DOES THE MASTER.
I DON'T KNOW WHY.


I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU FROM YOUR BROTHER.
I HOPE YOU ARE DOING FINE.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOUR MESSAGE.
NEXT WEEK-- A STRONG WIND WILL BLOW OVER THE HILL OF CINOSA.
THIS TRIP IS JUST TO GET NEW SERVANTS, ISN'T IT?
WHY DOES SHE HAVE TO GO, TOO?
IT'S HER HOBBY, I ASSUME.
SHE WANTS TO FIND KIDS SHE LIKES AND--
MISS VILNA !!
MISS VILNA !!


RMBL
GIVE US ALMS!
GIVE US ALMS!
RMBL
GIVE US MERCY, MISS VILNA !!
SO THIS IS ...
PLEASE, MISS VILNA.
MISS VILNA.
GIVE US YOUR MERCY !
WATER, GIVE US WATER !
MISS VILNA ...
GIVE US YOUR MERCY !


TAKE IT!
Waaaaa!
THE "MIRACLE WATER" OF VILNA!
Ha Ha Ha Ha!!
Ha Ha Ha Ha!!
heh!
YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT HER, SOLANA.


SHE'S BECOME ...
CASTANZO'S WATCH DOG.
CHILDREN ARE CAREFULLY RAISED AT THE MANSION.
AS LONG AS THEY WORK AT THE MANSION, THEY CAN LIVE HEALTHY LIVES WITHOUT TRANSFOR-MATION.
THERE'S NO HIGHER HONOR OR HAPPINESS THAN TO BE ONE OF THE CHOSEN CHILDREN.
SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE TAKING CHILDREN AGAINST THEIR WILL.

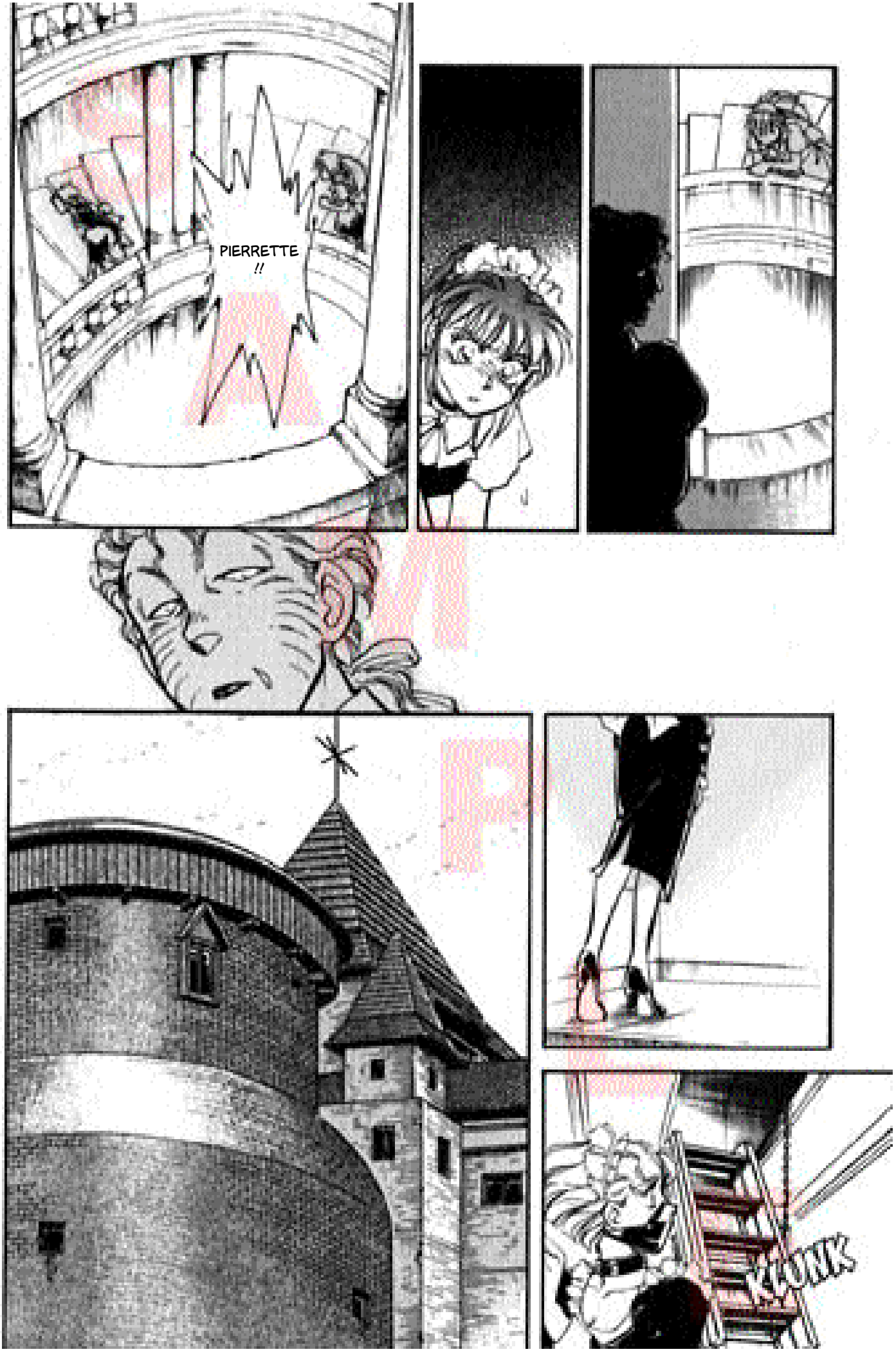

D..
DON'T !!
HER MOTHER ISN'T HERE RIGHT NOW.
DON'T TAKE HER NOW !!
SOLANA'S FOOD BAR
PEPE !!
SARAI !!
GET ON !
SARAI, SARAI !
SARA-AAI!!
SLAM!
YOU KNOW HER ?

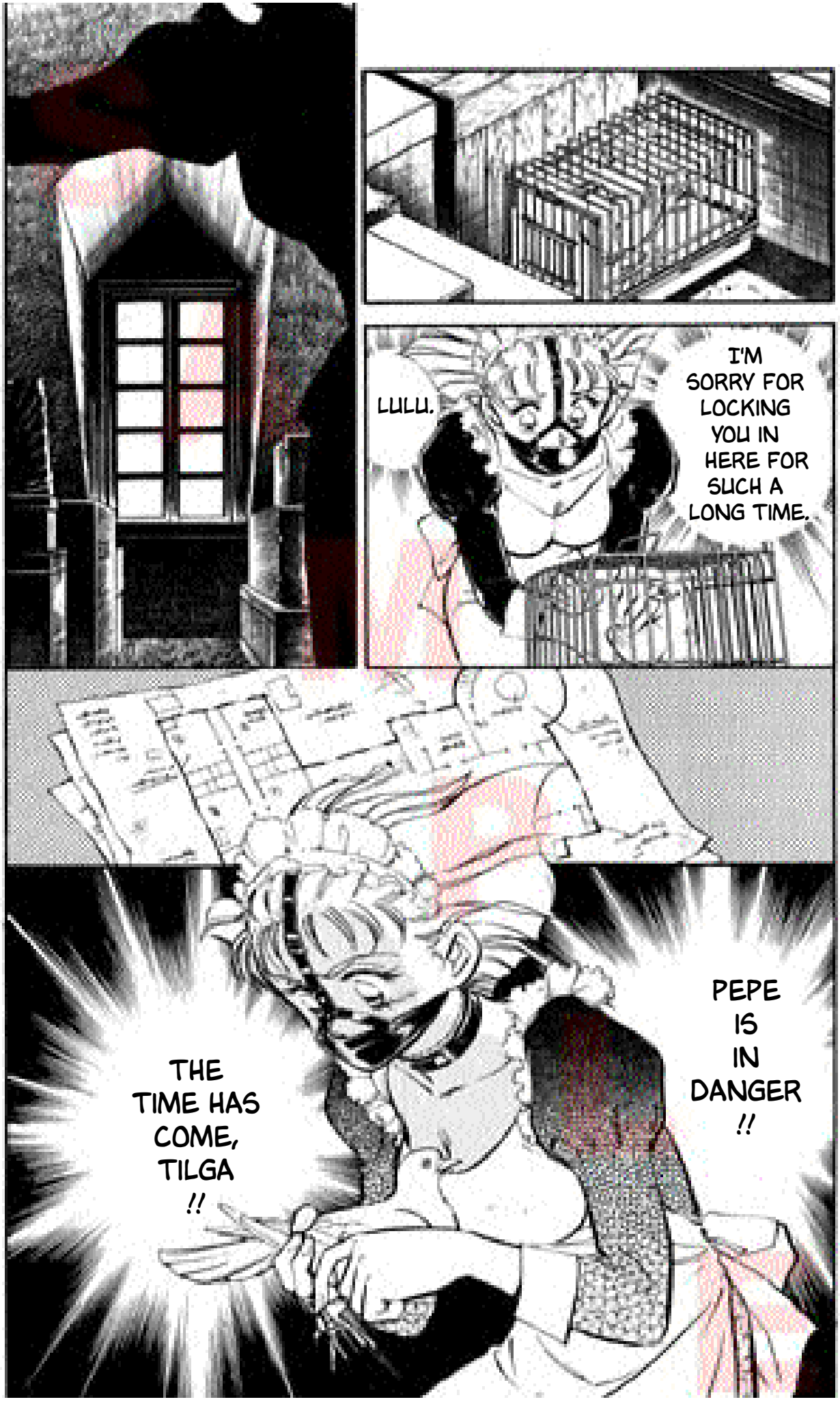

huff huff huff
SORRY.
I'M SORRY, SOLANA.
I'M REALLY SORRY.

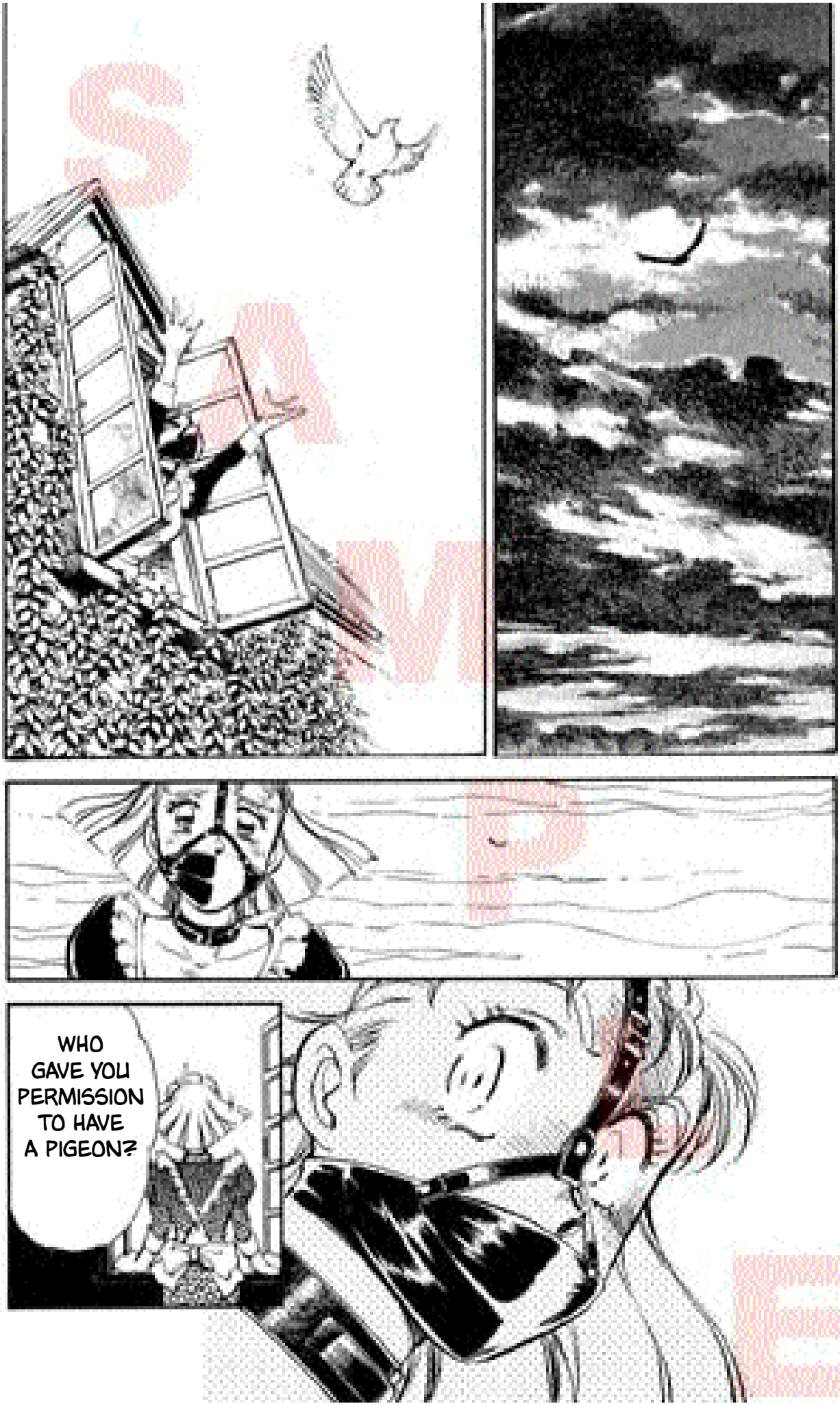
ACT 9


GIRLS ARE RAISED AS MAIDS AND COOKS.
BOYS WILL BE GARDENERS, SERVANTS, OR GUARDS.
THEY'LL BE SO HAPPY
THESE CHILDREN WILL BE FREE FROM THE FEAR OF TRANSFORMATION.
YOU SAID FIVE OR SIX CHILDREN ARE BROUGHT IN EVERY DAY.
WHY DON'T I SEE ANY OF THEM HERE?
WELL ...
THEY MUST BE TRAINED SOMEWHERE ELSE.
WHERE?

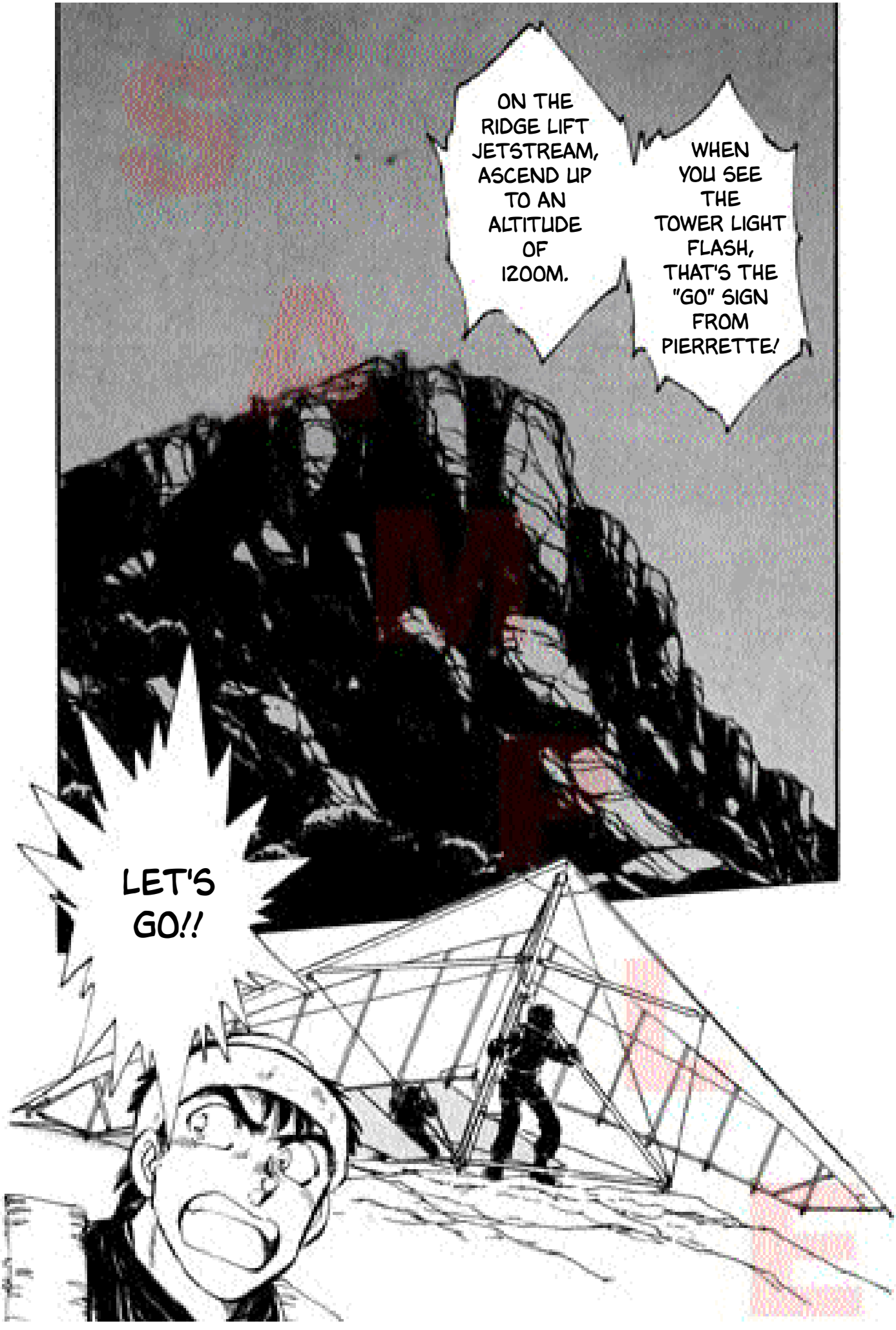

PLEASE !!
TELL ME !!
WHERE ARE THOSE CHILDREN ?
YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU ?
TRUST ME!
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE YOU ANY TROUBLE.
IF THE CHILDREN ARE REALLY HAPPY HERE, THEN THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
I'M A FRIEND OF PEPE'S.
I WANT TO TELL HER MOTHER ...
HOW SHE IS LIVING.


PIERRETTE
!!
KLONK

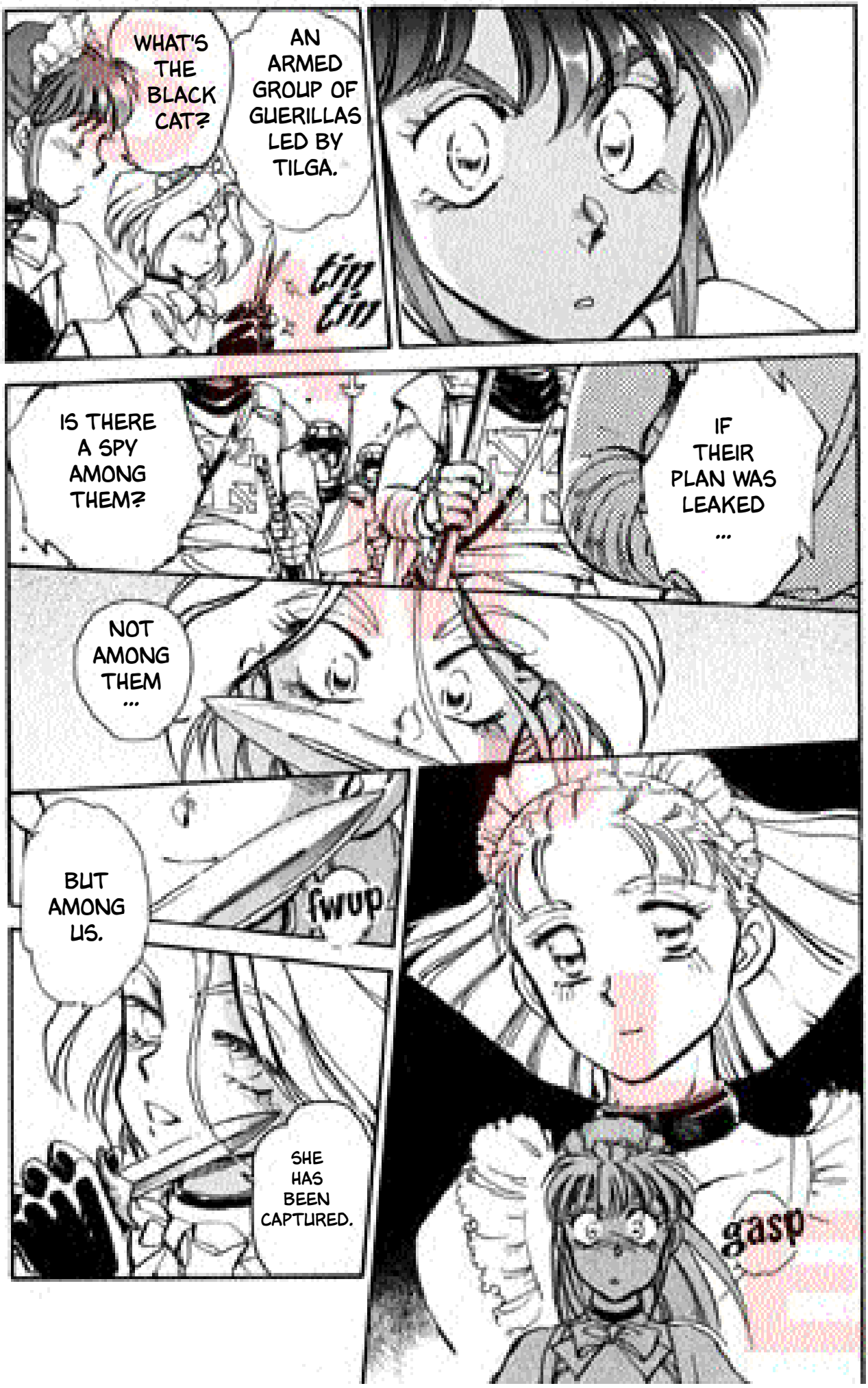

LULU.
I'M SORRY FOR LOCKING YOU IN HERE FOR SUCH A LONG TIME.
PEPE IS IN DANGER !!
THE TIME HAS COME, TILGA !!


WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO HAVE A PIGEON?

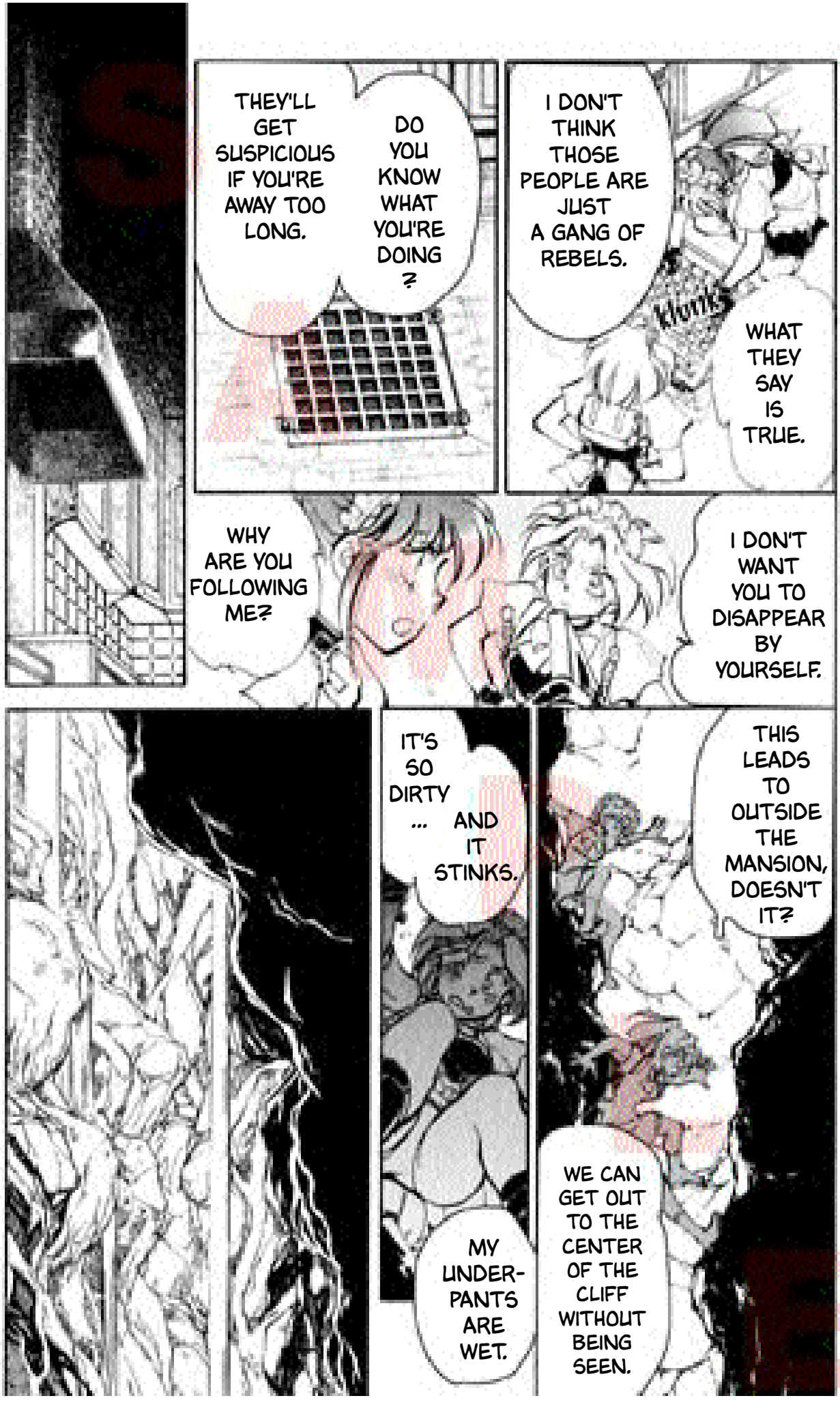

ACT 10
PIERRETTE WILL PUT THE GUARDS AND GUARD MAIDS TO SLEEP.
MOST OF THEM WILL LOSE MOBILITY.
EVEN IF SOLDIERS COME IN, THEY CAN'T MOVE FREELY INSIDE THE MANSION.
OUR FIRE WEAPONS WILL BE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO HAVE THE MANSION UNDER OUR CONTROL.
CHECK YOUR INVASION ROUTE.
"A" GROUP TAKES CASTANZO.
"B" GROUP TAKES VILNA.
WE TAKE THE SEIGNEUR AND HIS DAUGHTER HOSTAGE, DISARM THEM AT ONCE, AND THEN OCCUPY THE MANSION!!
OHHHH!
TILGA!
DON'T WORRY!
WE'LL RESCUE PEPE. I PROMISE.


ON THE RIDGE LIFT JETSTREAM, ASCEND UP TO AN ALTITUDE OF 1200M.
WHEN YOU SEE THE TOWER LIGHT FLASH, THAT'S THE "GO" SIGN FROM PIERRETTE!
LET'S GO!!

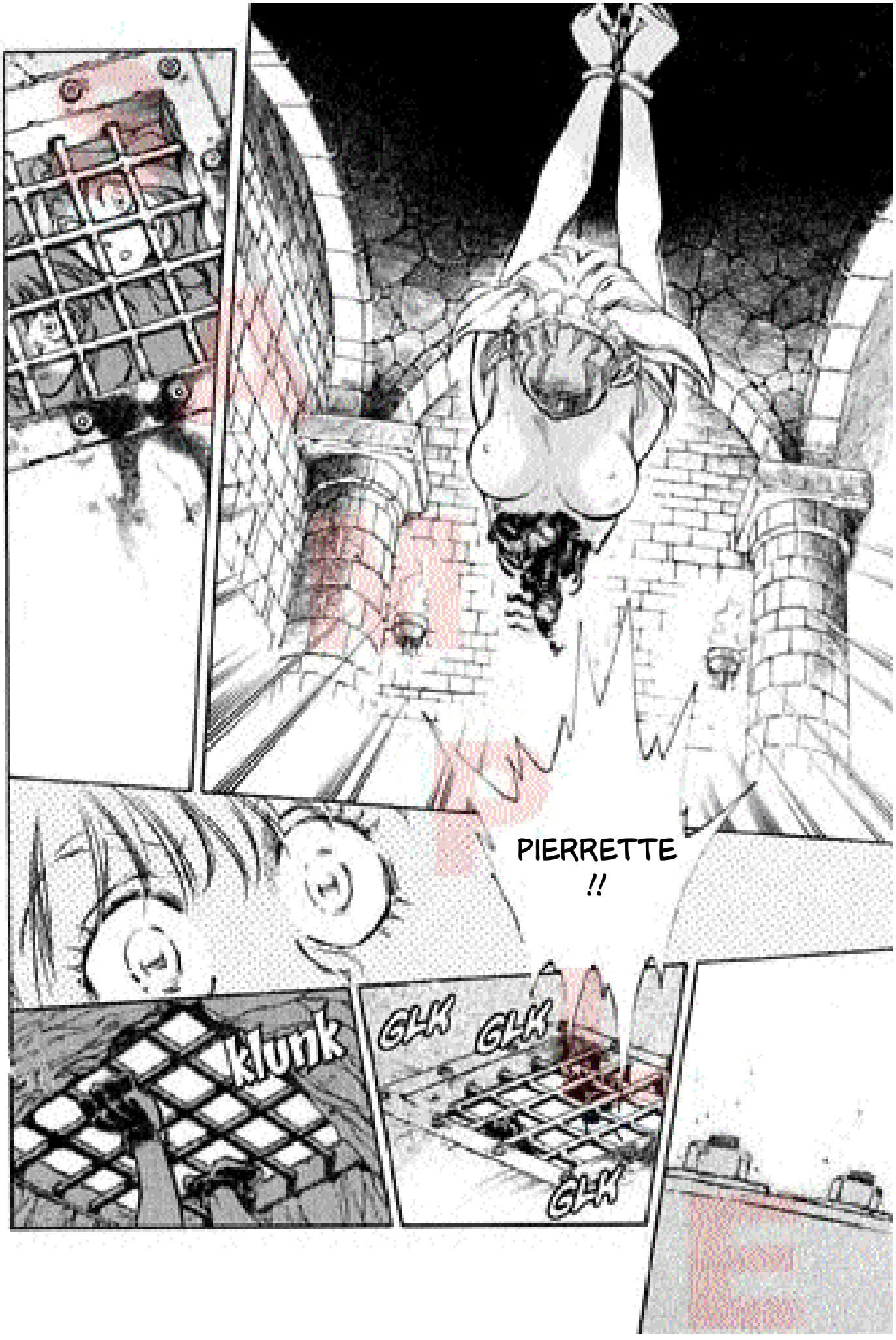

THE GANG OF THE BLACK CAT IS COMING TO ATTACK US!!
THEY DON'T KNOW YET THAT THEIR PLAN WAS LEAKED.
THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE SITTING HERE WAITING!!
THEIR WEAPONS ARE ANCIENT.
THEY HARDLY HAVE ANY AMMUNI-TION.
THEY ARE A SLOPPY BUNCH OF SHAMELESS IDIOTS.
GREET THEM WITH FULL-FORCE!!
OHHH!
KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM!
SARAI!
FLICKER!
SHOW US WHAT YOU'RE WORTH! SHOW US YOUR TRUE ABILITY AS BATTLE MAIDS!!
YES, MA' AM.


WHAT'S THE BLACK CAT?
AN ARMED GROUP OF GUERILLAS LED BY TILGA.
city city
IS THERE A SPY AMONG THEM?
IF THEIR PLAN WAS LEAKED ...
NOT AMONG THEM ...
BUT AMONG US.
fwup
SHE HAS BEEN CAPTURED.
gasp


JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE A WATER SUPPLY ...
THEY THINK IT'S THEIR DIVINE PRIVILEGE TO TRAMPLE
AND DESTROY PEOPLE'S HEARTS AND MINDS.
WHO AM I TRYING TO HELP, HUH?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
ARE YOU NUTS ?
YOU THINK YOU CAN GO OUT THERE AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE WITH THE BLACK CAT...
OR JUST WANT TO GET YOURSELF KILLED.
BUT I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF IT.
I HAVE TO STOP THEIR ATTACK!
THEY'LL BE AMBUSHED AND KILLED!
THE WHOLE MANSION IS READY FOR A WAR!


THEY'LL GET SUSPICIOUS IF YOU'RE AWAY TOO LONG.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
I DON'T THINK THOSE PEOPLE ARE JUST A GANG OF REBELS.
klunk
WHAT THEY SAY IS TRUE.
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
I DON'T WANT YOU TO DISAPPEAR BY YOURSELF.
IT'S SO DIRTY ... AND IT STINKS.
MY UNDER-PANTS ARE WET.
THIS LEADS TO OUTSIDE THE MANSION, DOESN'T IT?
WE CAN GET OUT TO THE CENTER OF THE CLIFF WITHOUT BEING SEEN.

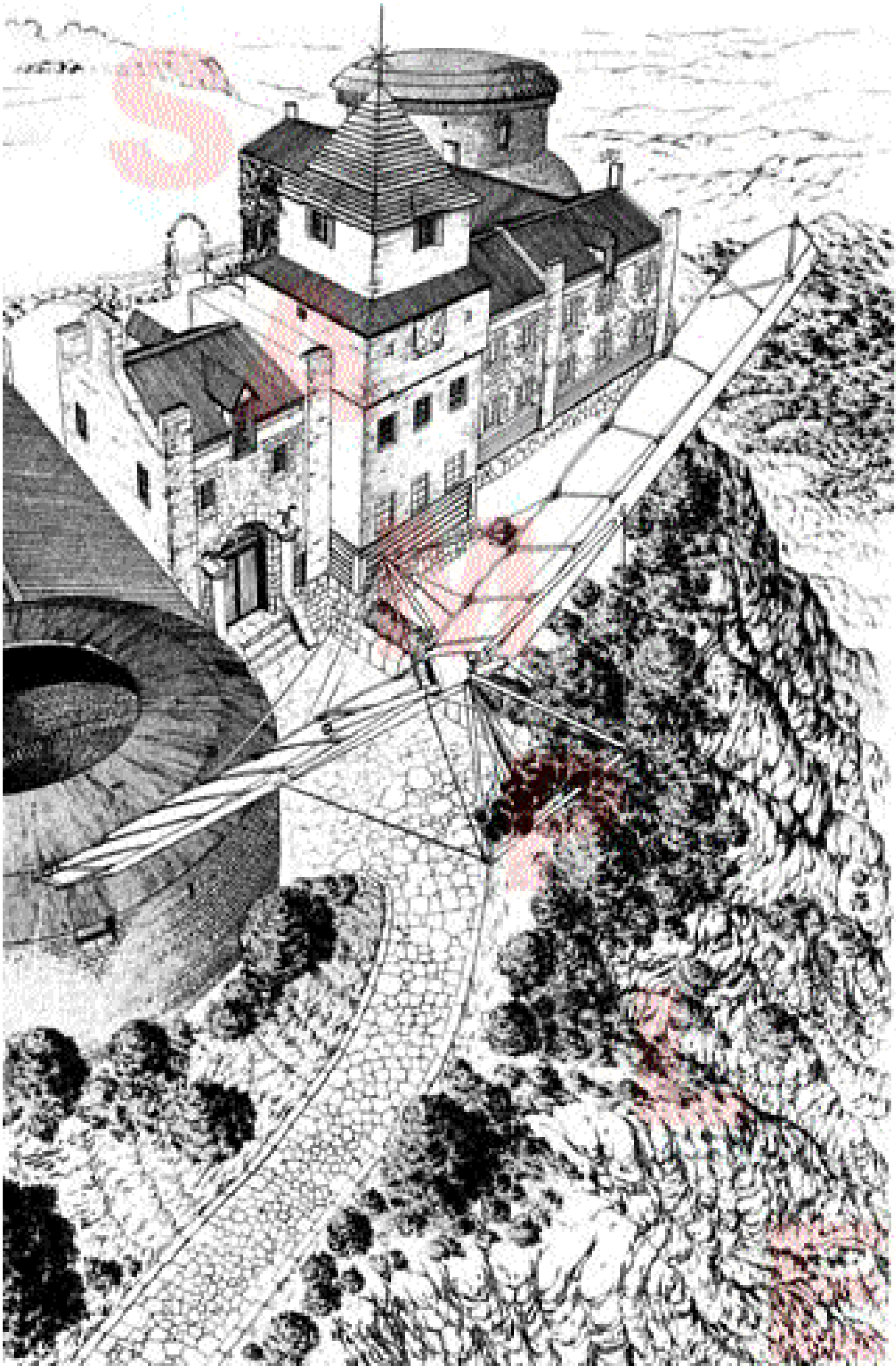

YUCK
I CAN'T STAND IT.
IT'S SO GROSS!
BLOOD ....
EEE!
DON'T --
DON'T TOUCH MY HAIR WITH YOUR DIRTY PAWS!

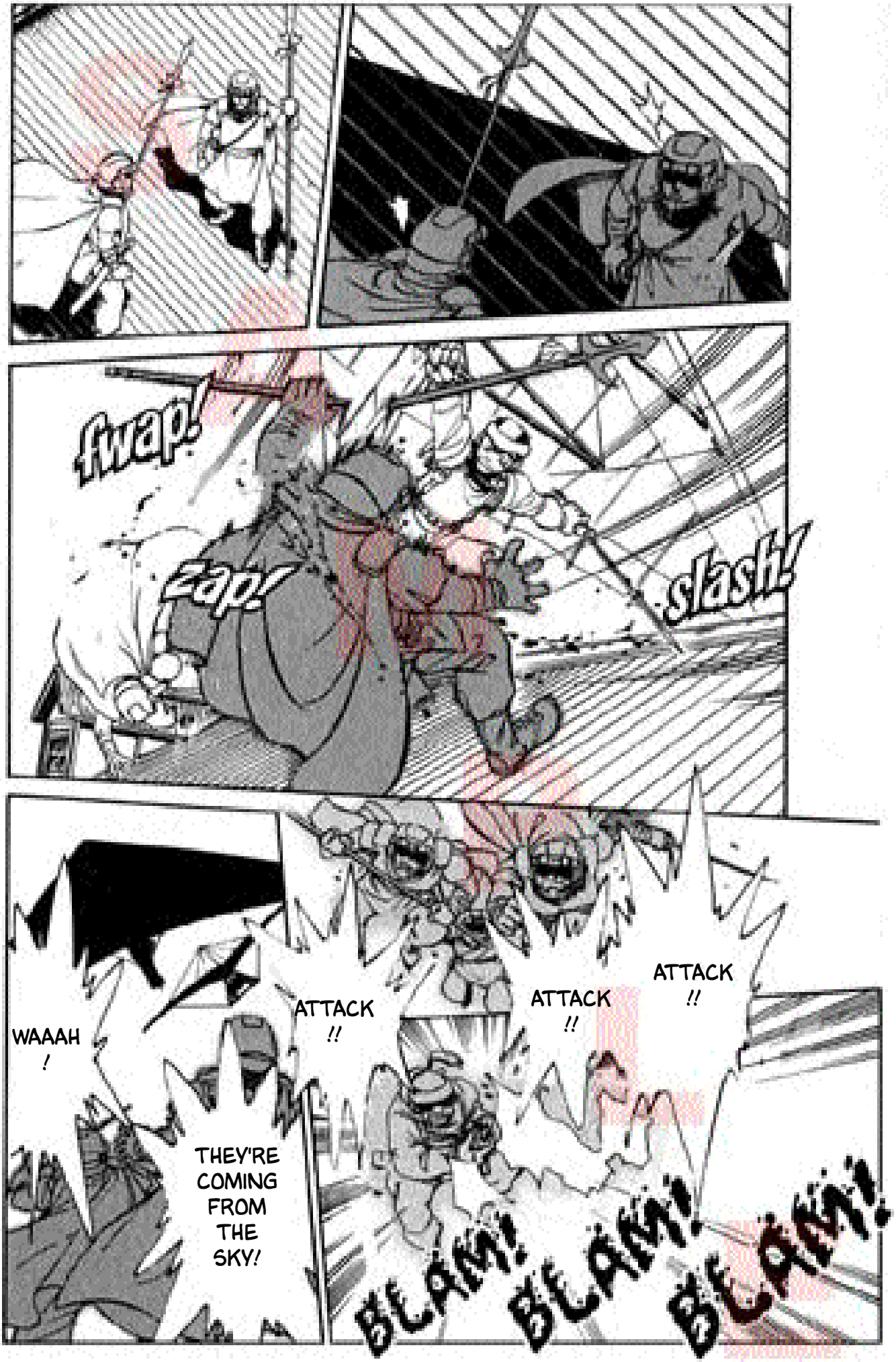

PIERRETTE
!!
klunk
GLK
GLK
GLK


WHACK
WHACK
PI
PIER-
RETTE
!
SA
RAI
OH
MY --
SHE'S
ALIVE

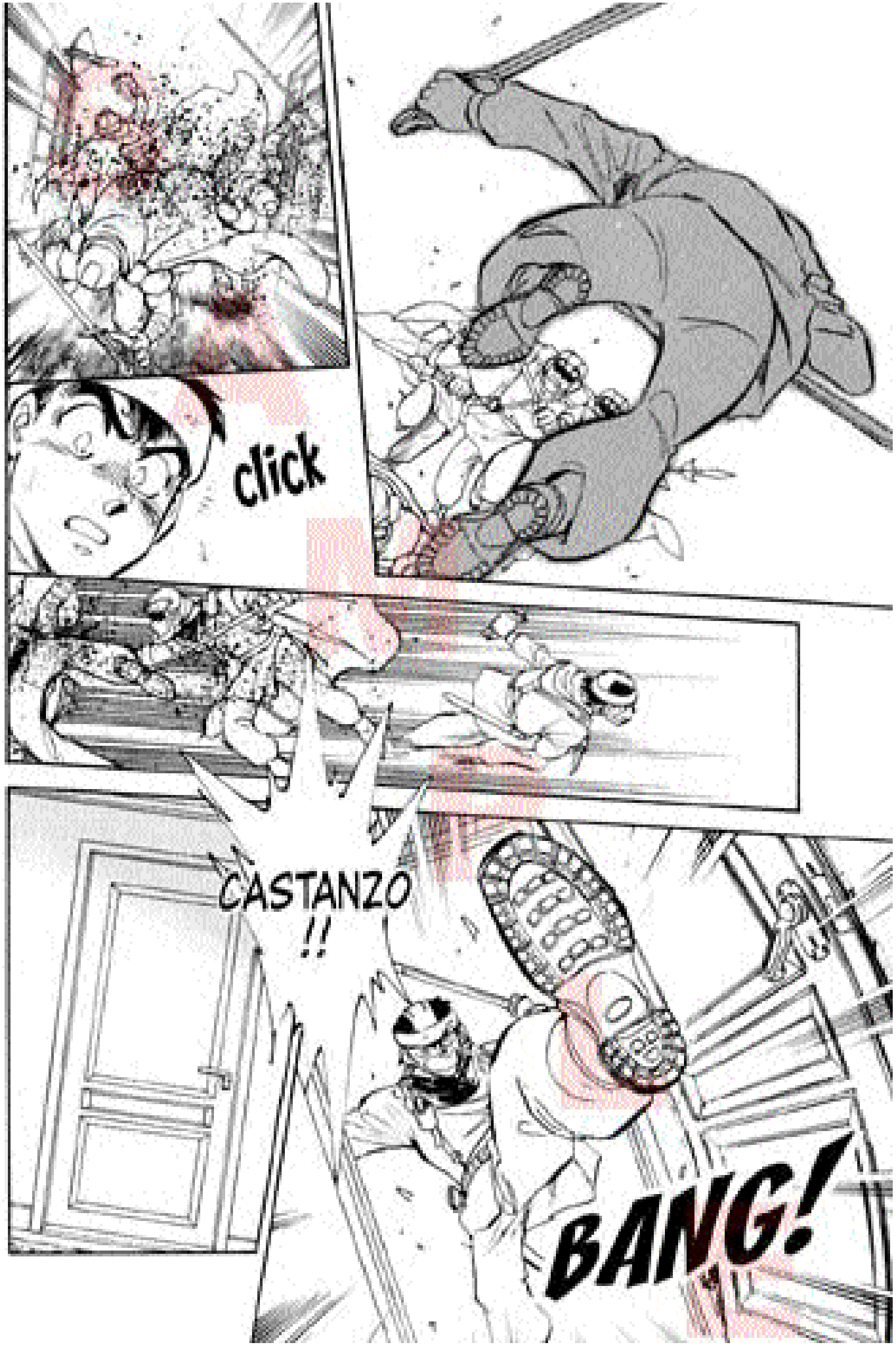
HELP ...
PEPE AND
THE OTHER
CHILDREN
...
THEY
ARE...
IN THIS
BASE-
MENT...
STOP MY
BROTHER
AND HIS
MEN--
THEY--
MADE--
ME--
TALK --
THEY BURNT
HER WOUNDS
SO SHE
WOULDN'T
BLEED TO DEATH.
HOW
CRUEL

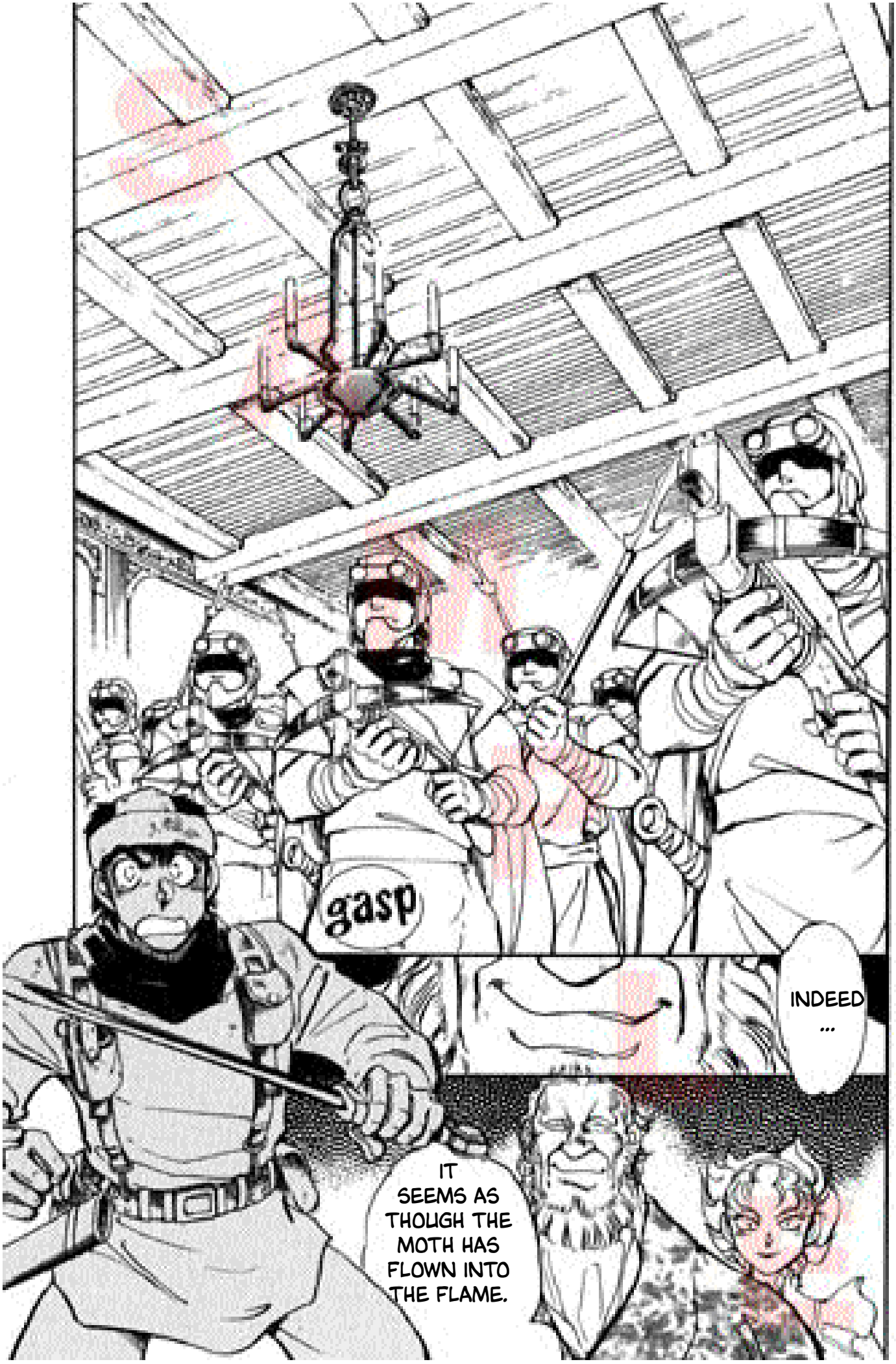

SAVE THEM FROM THE PEOPLE IN THIS MANSION!!
KLONK!
KLONK!
Y-- YOU--!
HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?!



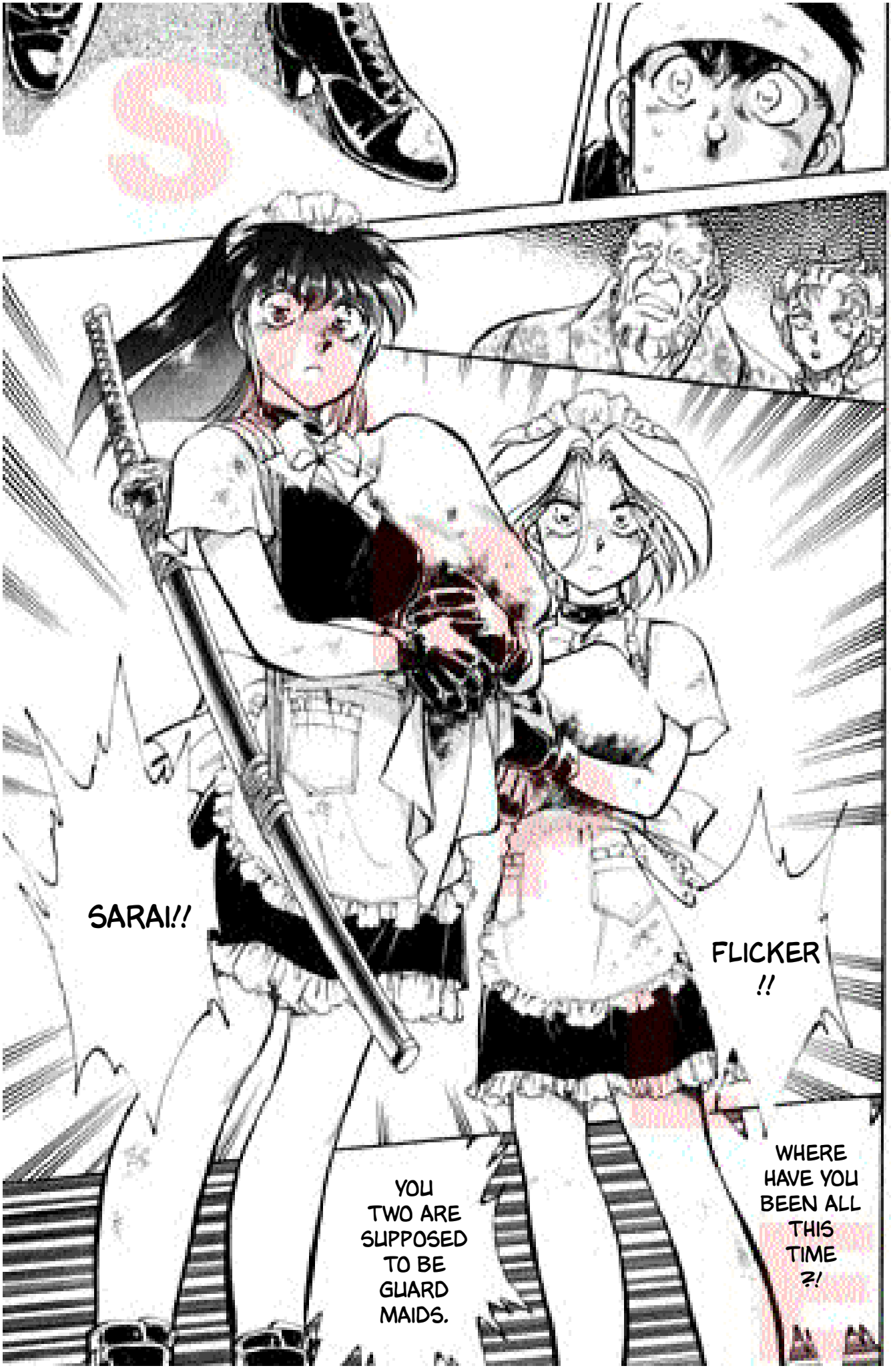

fwap!
zap!
slash!
WAAAH !
THEY'RE COMING FROM THE SKY!
ATTACK !!
ATTACK !!
ATTACK !!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!


CRACK!
twok
twok
twok
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM


click
CASTANZO
!!
BANG!

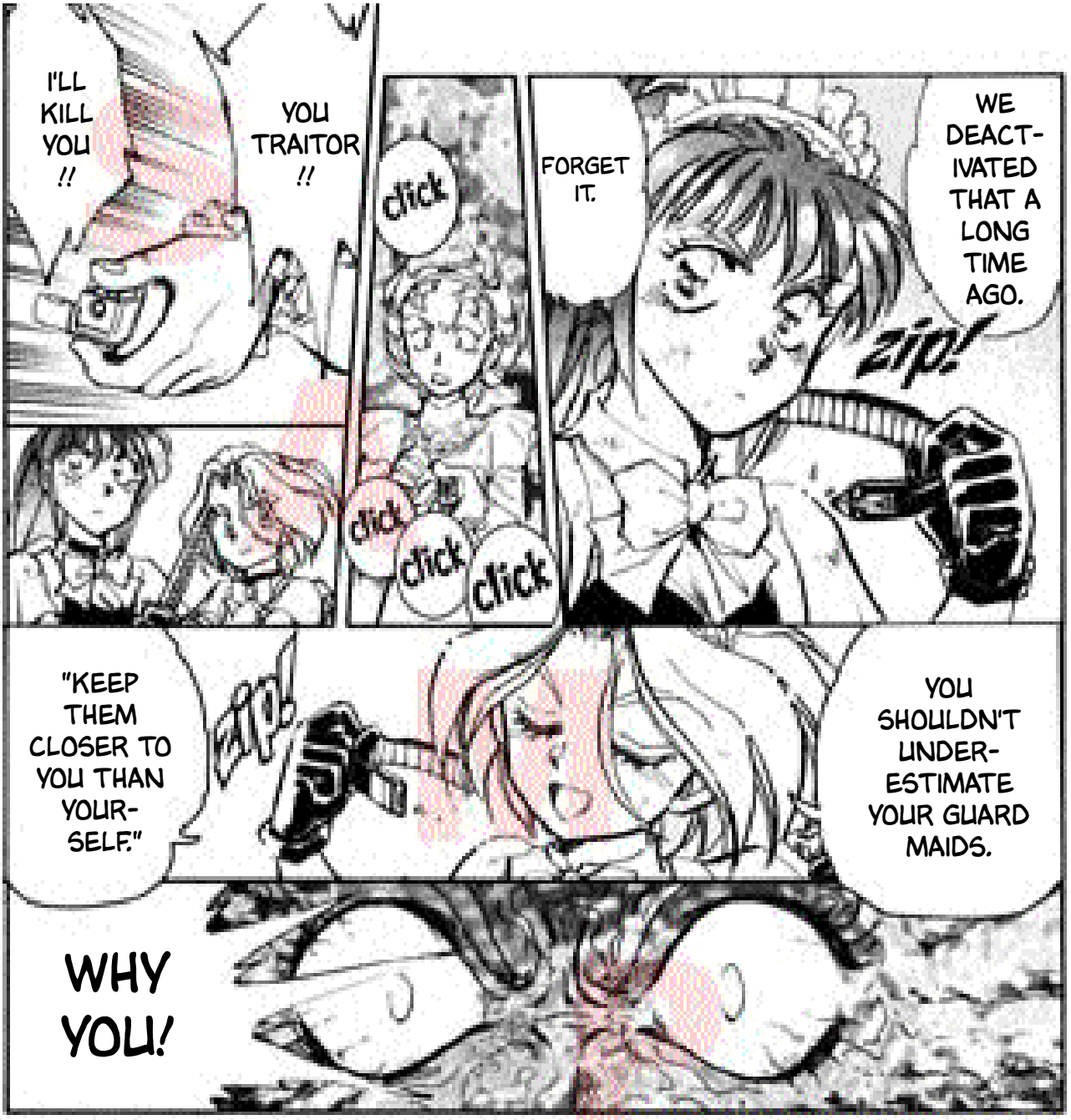

gasp
INDEED ...
IT SEEMS AS THOUGH THE MOTH HAS FLOWN INTO THE FLAME.


DIE!
swip
swip
swip
YOU SCUMBAG !!
zap
zap
zap


SARA!!
FLICKER !!
YOU TWO ARE SUPPOSED TO BE GUARD MAIDS.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL THIS TIME ?!


IF YOU WERE JUST A VICIOUS TYRANT WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF WATER CONCESSION ...
BUT THIS IS ...
I WOULDN'T TAKE THE SIDE OF THE BLACK CAT.
UNFOR-GIVABLE !!
PIERRETTE !!
WAHAHAAAAH


DOING
YOU'RE ALL MONSTERS !!
HI.
CLICK
FILTHY CANNIBALS !!
YOU CAN NO LONGER CONTROL
THE TRANSFORMATION WITH ONLY YOUR PRECIOUS WATER.
YOU'VE BEEN MAINTAINING A HUMAN APPEARANCE BY ABSORBING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN.


I'LL KILL YOU !!
YOU TRAITOR !!
click
click
click
click
FORGET IT.
WE DEACT-IVATED THAT A LONG TIME AGO.
zip!
"KEEP THEM CLOSER TO YOU THAN YOUR-SELF."
zip!
YOU SHOULDN'T UNDER-ESTIMATE YOUR GUARD MAIDS.
WHY YOU!


kill' em!!
kill' em!!
kill' em!!


WHA
--
BBSP


KABOOM


COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
YOU
--
YOU
--


WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ?!
YOU WANNA BLOW US UP, TOO ?!
AS A GUARD MAID, YOU ARE SUPPOSED
TO SACRIFICE YOUR LIFE TO PROTECT YOUR MASTER!!

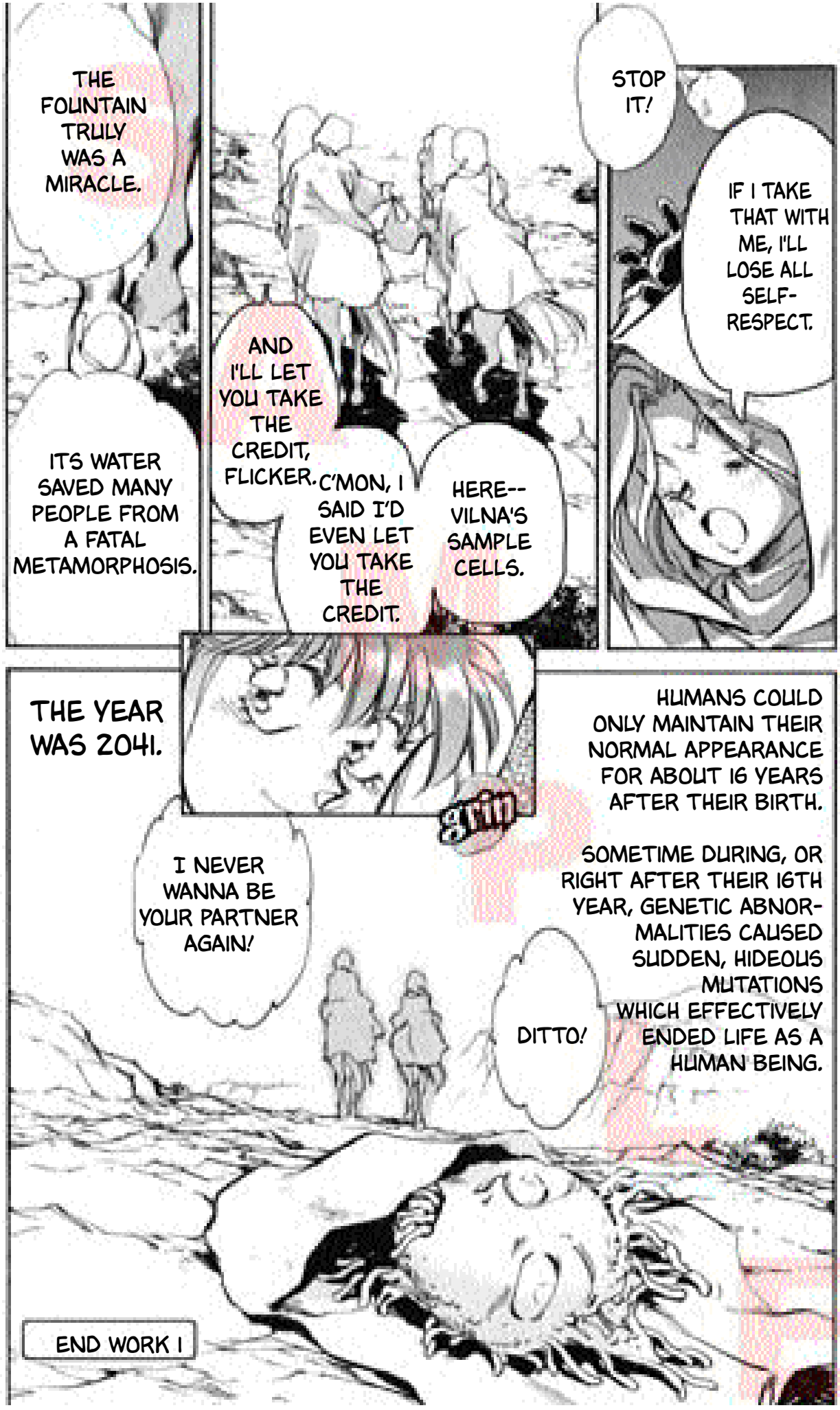

CRKL
CRKL
CRKL
CRKL
SHIMP
GULP
--
CRKL
CRKL
CRKL


CRACK
CRACK
I WON'T DIE ...
YOU SCUM ...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
bcha
bcha


THESE CHILDREN ...
REFUSED RESURR-ECTION.
MMM ...
I NEVER THOUGHT THEY WERE GIGANTS .....
YOU COULDN'T TELL? YOU WERE HERE A WEEK AHEAD OF ME.
Y- YOU COULDN'T TELL *EITHER.*
YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE BASEMENT OR THE CHILDREN.
YOU'RE HOPELESS, FLICKER.
zak zak-zak
TILGA !!
THE REST OF THE GUARDS HAVE SURRENDERED !
WE'VE RESCUED THE CHILDREN.


TILGA
!!
PEPE!!


THIS FOUNTAIN LIES IN THE CENTER OF THE SAN TANDEL JIMENEZ DESERT. IT IS BELIEVED THAT RAIN WATER FROM THE EAST SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS, 300KM FROM THIS LOCATION, TOOK 1000 YEARS TO FORM THE FOUNTAIN.
LONG BEFORE MANKIND DESTROYED ITS OWN TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETIES, AND GENETIC DISORDERS THREW CIVILIZATION INTO A MAZE OF AGONY...
THIS WAS PURE WATER.


THE FOUNTAIN TRULY WAS A MIRACLE.
ITS WATER SAVED MANY PEOPLE FROM A FATAL METAMORPHOSIS.
AND I'LL LET YOU TAKE THE CREDIT, FLICKER.
C'MON, I SAID I'D EVEN LET YOU TAKE THE CREDIT.
HERE-- VILNA'S SAMPLE CELLS.
STOP IT!
IF I TAKE THAT WITH ME, I'LL LOSE ALL SELF-RESPECT.
THE YEAR WAS 2041.
HUMANS COULD ONLY MAINTAIN THEIR NORMAL APPEARANCE FOR ABOUT 16 YEARS AFTER THEIR BIRTH.
SOMETIME DURING, OR RIGHT AFTER THEIR 16TH YEAR, GENETIC ABNORMALITIES CAUSED SUDDEN, HIDEOUS MUTATIONS WHICH EFFECTIVELY ENDED LIFE AS A HUMAN BEING.
I NEVER WANNA BE YOUR PARTNER AGAIN!
DITTO!
END WORK 1

SARAI
THE BATTLE MAID

MASAHIRO SHIBATA

SAMPLE

IN THE 20TH CENTURY, THE MATERIAL WORLD FULLY BLOSSOMED WITH THE HELP OF DRAMATIC ADVANCES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

EVERY NEW TECHNOLOGY BUILT ON THE LAST ONE.

PEOPLE WERE SURROUNDED BY A FLOOD OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS WHICH OFFERED THE WORLD GREAT CONVENIENCE AND [illegible] COMFORT.

MEDICAL INNOVATION CONQUERED DISEASE...

AND LONG LIFE OUTLASTED THE FEAR OF DEATH.

BIOSCIENCE UNCOVERED THE MYSTERIES OF THE HUMAN GENOME.

MASS MEDIA ENVELOPED THE GLOBE, ALLOWING FOR INSTANT COMMUNICATION ACROSS TIME AND DISTANCE.

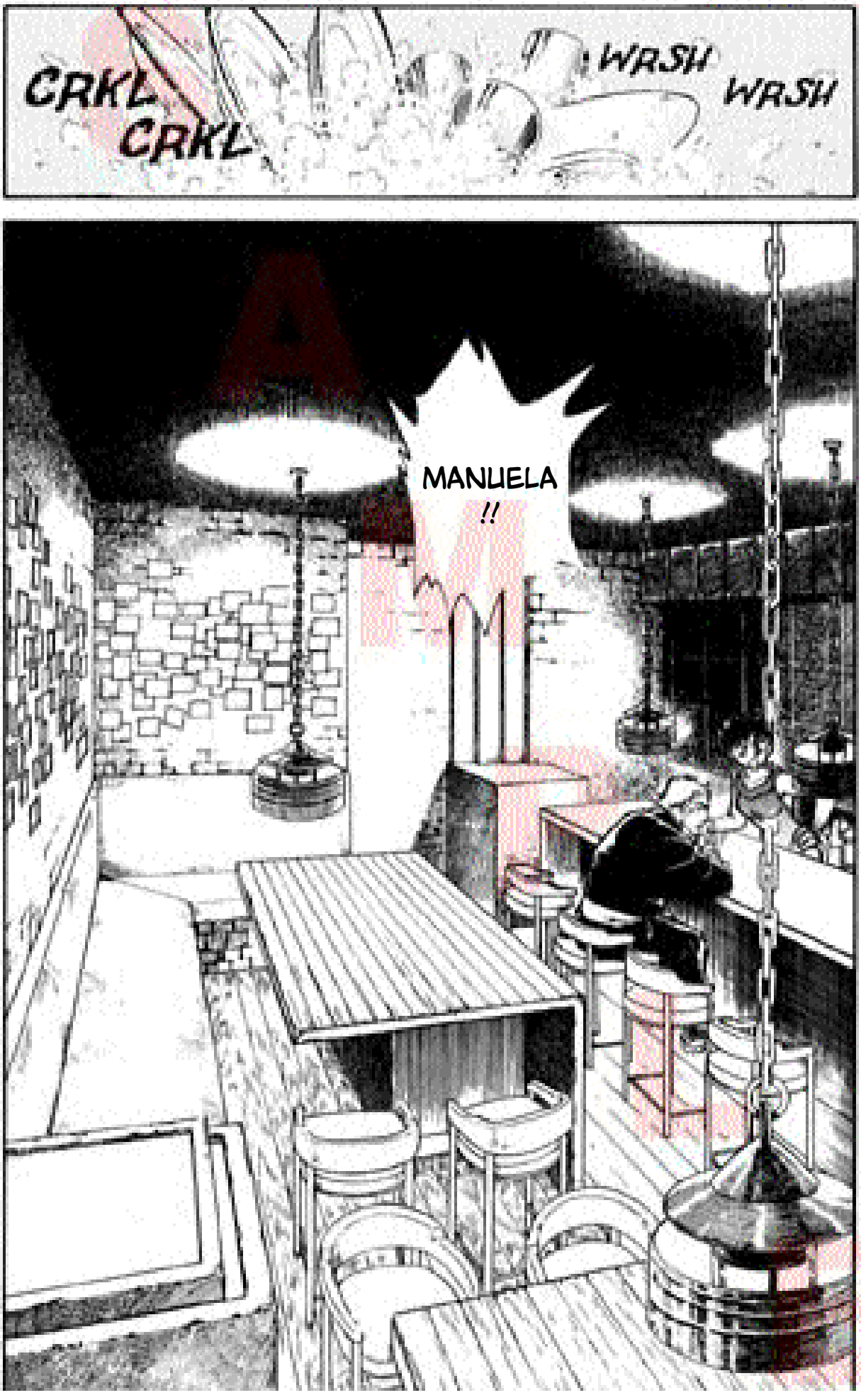
THE INFORMATION AGE LET PEOPLE SHARE THEIR IDEAS ALL AROUND THE WORLD.

AND THE GROWING WISDOM OF MANKIND COULD EASILY ENVISION EVEN BRIGHTER DREAMS OF THE FUTURE.

MANKIND
LIVED IN A
HAPPY DREAM
FOR A LONG TIME...




AS A MINING PROVINCE FOR COPPER
THE MOUNTAIN TOWN IS BUILT AS IF
ON TOP OF A SLAB OF LARGE ROCK

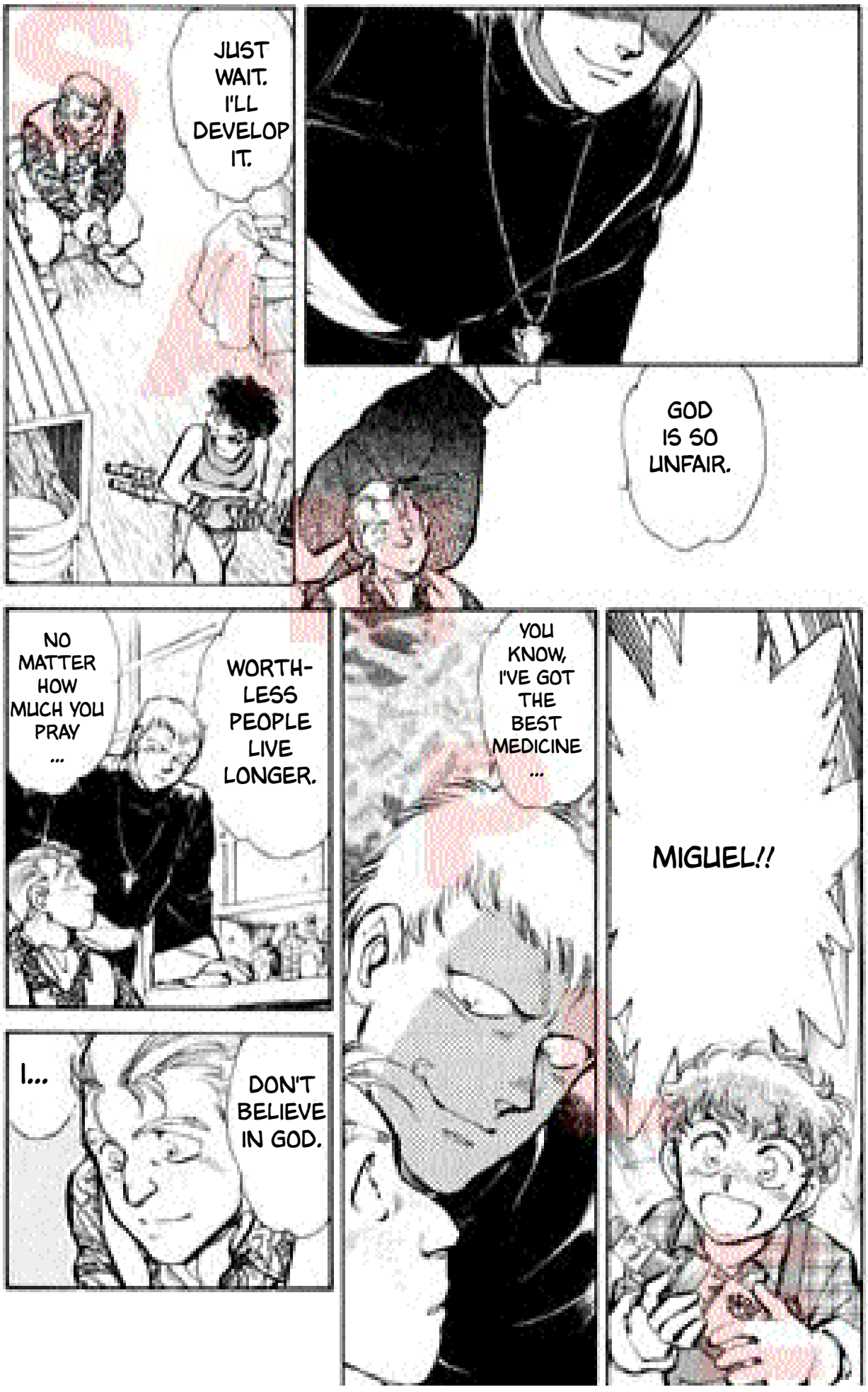

CRKL
CRKL
WRSH
WRSH
MANUELA
!!

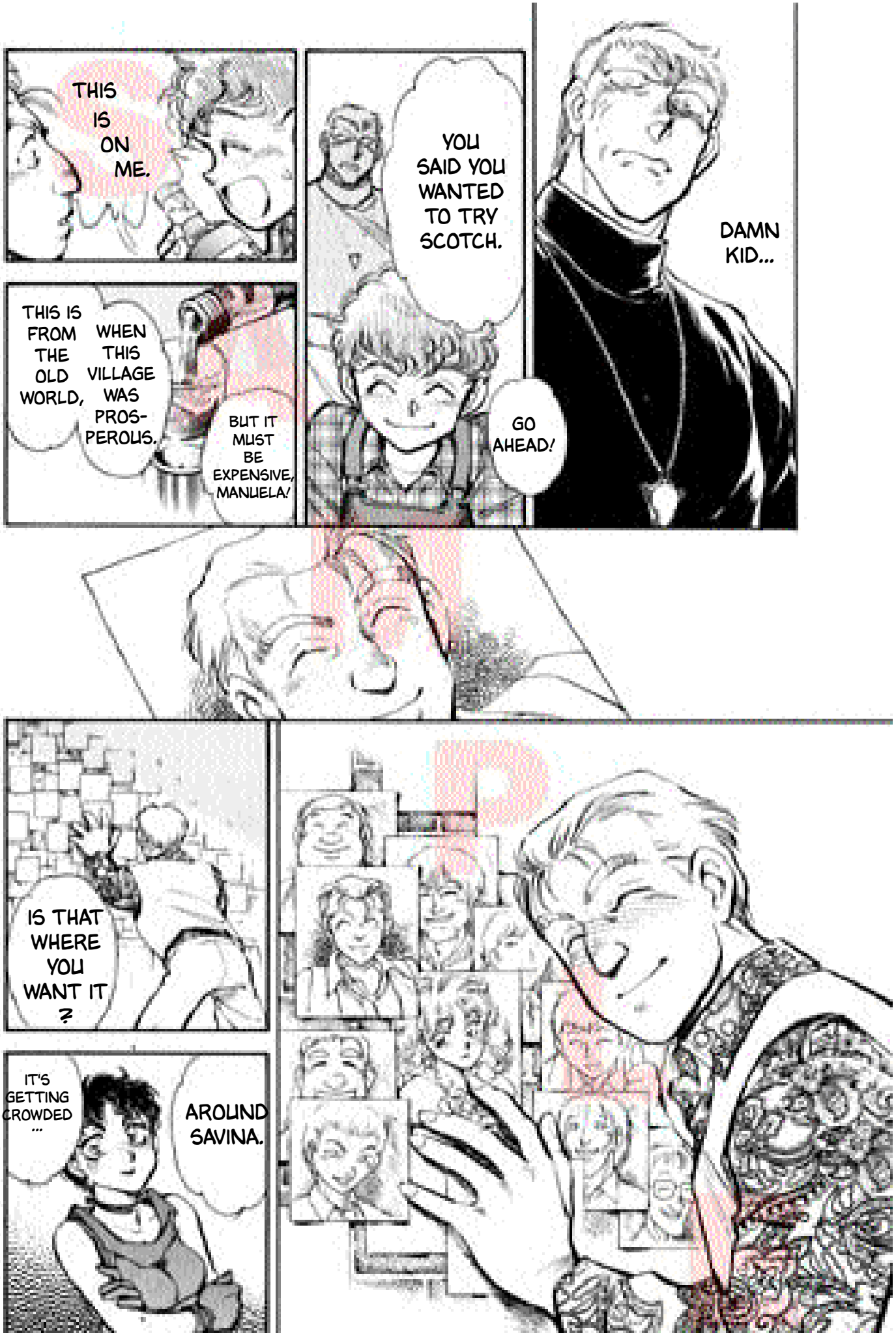

DON'T BE SO ROUGH !!
WASH MORE GENTLY !!
CRKL CRKL
MANUELA....
WHAT'S YOUR ANSWER, MICHELLE ?
YES OR NO ?
YOU'LL GET LOTS OF FREEDOM, MONEY...
LEAVE THE PUB TO THAT KID.
SUCH A WASTE. WOMAN LIKE YOU ...
STUCK IN A PUB LIKE THIS.
YOU GOTTA ENJOY YOUR LIFE.
LEAVE ME ALONE !!
I LIKE THIS PLACE !!


MY CUST-OMERS ...
ARE A DIFFERENT TYPE OF PEOPLE THAN YOURS.
feh
THEY'RE ALL THE SAME.
EVERY-BODY JUMPS AT THE CHANCE TO BUY "HOPE" WITH MONEY.
THEY REALLY BELIEVE YOU CAN FIGHT YOUR FATE.
bang!
HOW SENTI-MENTAL.
GIVES ME GOOSE-BUMPS.
STOP IT, BAROSSO !
THAT'S ALL ...
THIS LITTLE PUB HAS !!


DON'T STIR UP THE WATERS!!
"HOPE" IS SUCH AN UNRELI-ABLE WORD.
STOP LEADING THEM ON.
UNTIL YOU CAME BACK,
PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE WERE PEACEFULLY WAITING FOR BETTER DAYS.
CLING CLING
HI
TAP
I'M HERE---
TO HAVE MY PHOTO TAKEN.


MIGUEL ...
YOU JUST TURNED 19, DIDN'T YOU?
smile
smile
HIS TIME--
HAS COME--
MANUELA! GET THE CAMERA!!
YES.
HERE WE GO, MIGUEL.
TRY TO GET MY BEST SIDE.
HA
click!

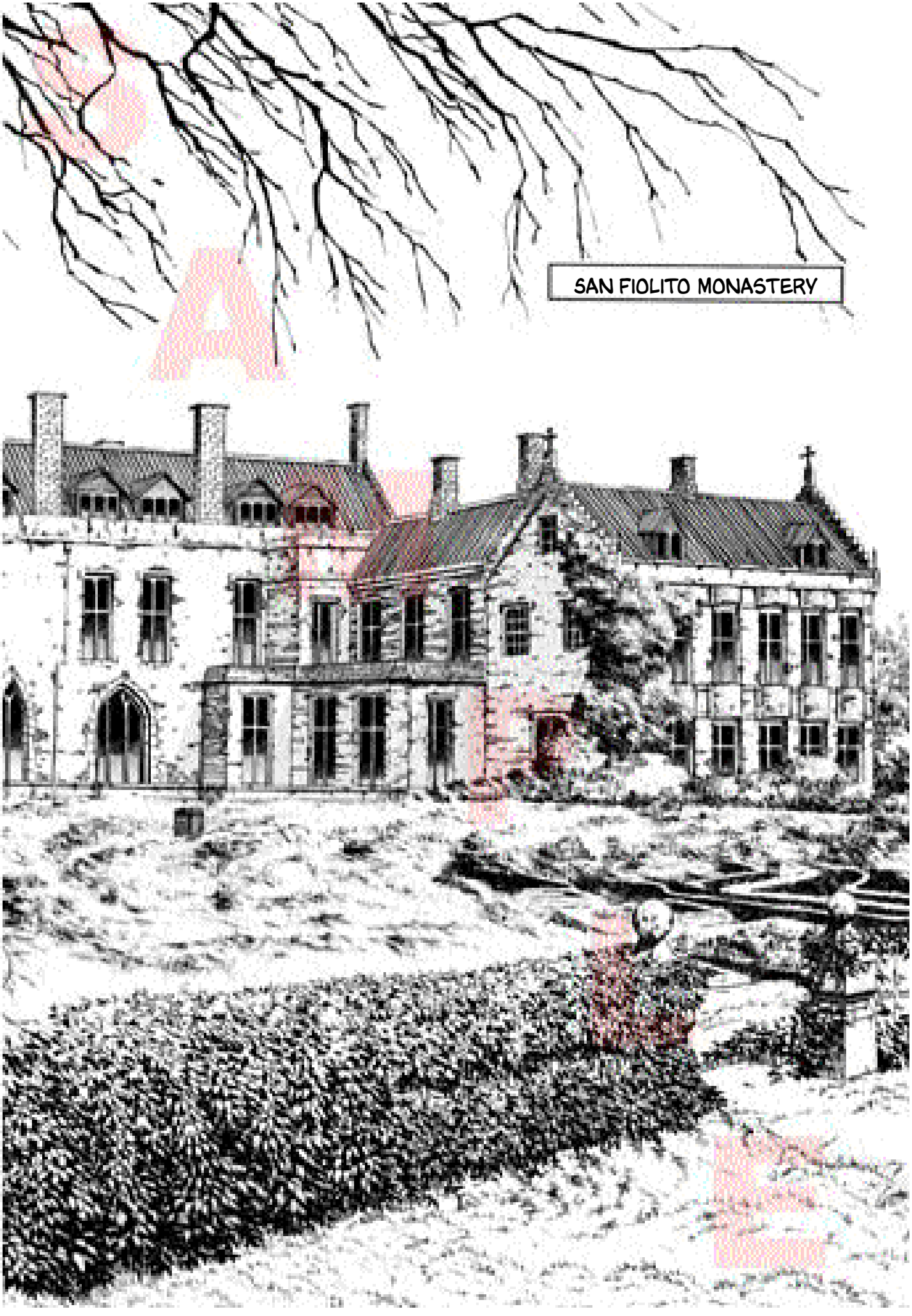

JUST WAIT. I'LL DEVELOP IT.
GOD IS SO UNFAIR.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU PRAY ...
WORTH-LESS PEOPLE LIVE LONGER.
I...
DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD.
YOU KNOW, I'VE GOT THE BEST MEDICINE ...
MIGUEL!!


THIS IS ON ME.
YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO TRY SCOTCH.
DAMN KID...
GO AHEAD!
THIS IS FROM THE OLD WORLD, WHEN THIS VILLAGE WAS PROS-PEROUS.
BUT IT MUST BE EXPENSIVE, MANUELA!
IS THAT WHERE YOU WANT IT ?
IT'S GETTING CROWDED ...
AROUND SAVINA.

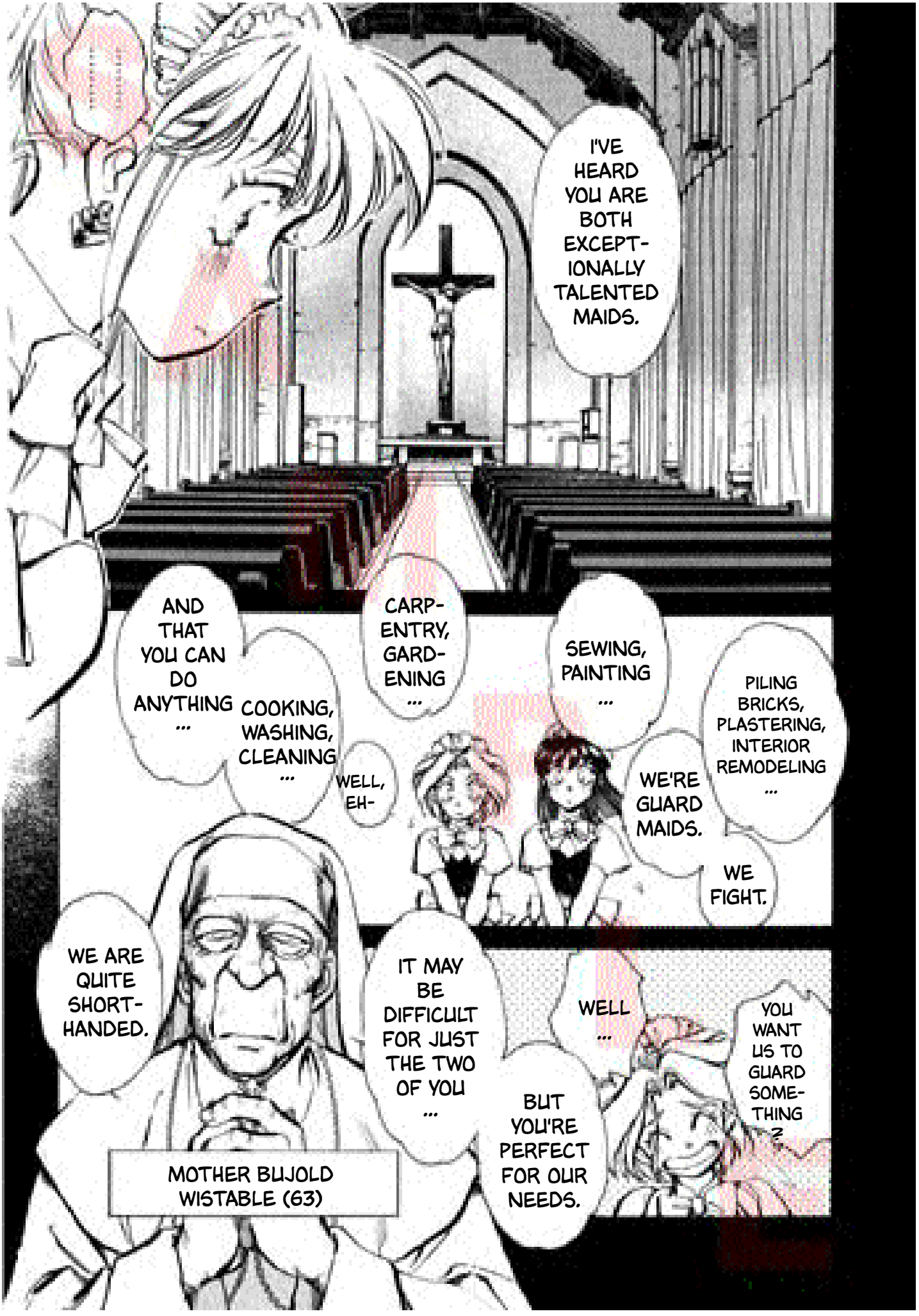

BYE, MICHELLE, MANUELA.
THANKS A LOT.
PLEA-SE...
REMEMBER ME.
CLING!
FEH.
PRE-TENDING LIKE HE KNOWS EVERY-THING.
YOU GAME FOR A BET, MICH-ELLE?
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW UNCERTAIN HE REALLY IS.
BAROSSO!!
IF I CAN'T MAKE HIM CHANGE HIS MIND, I'LL LEAVE THE VILLAGE.

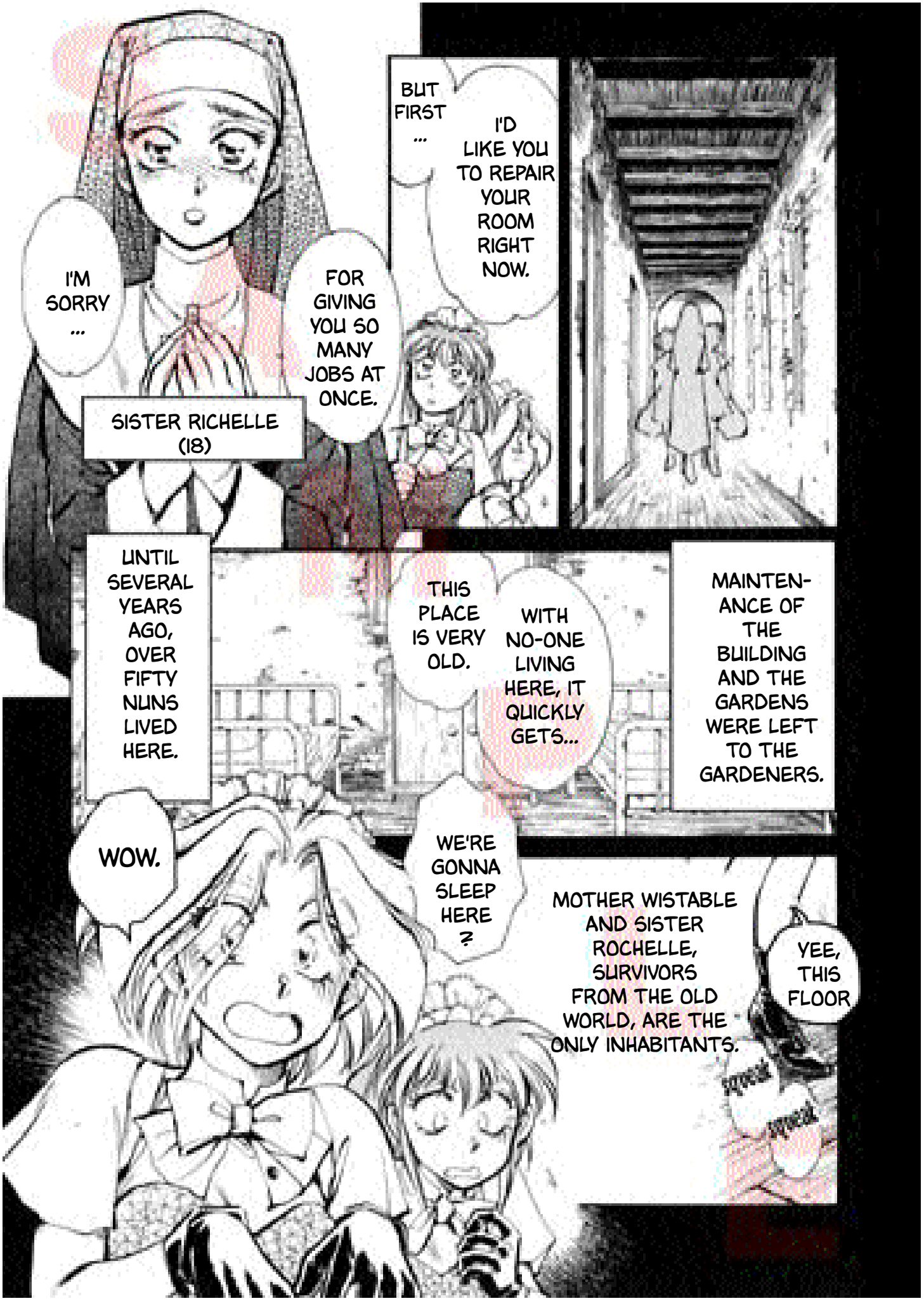

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!!
I WON'T LET YOU!!
EVEN IF HE THINKS HE'S READY ...
A REGULAR GUY LIKE HIM OFTEN HAS DELUSIONS.
MAN'S GOT TO HAVE ...
SOME-THING TO LEAN ON.
SUCH A GODLESS VILLAGE ....
NEEDS THIS!

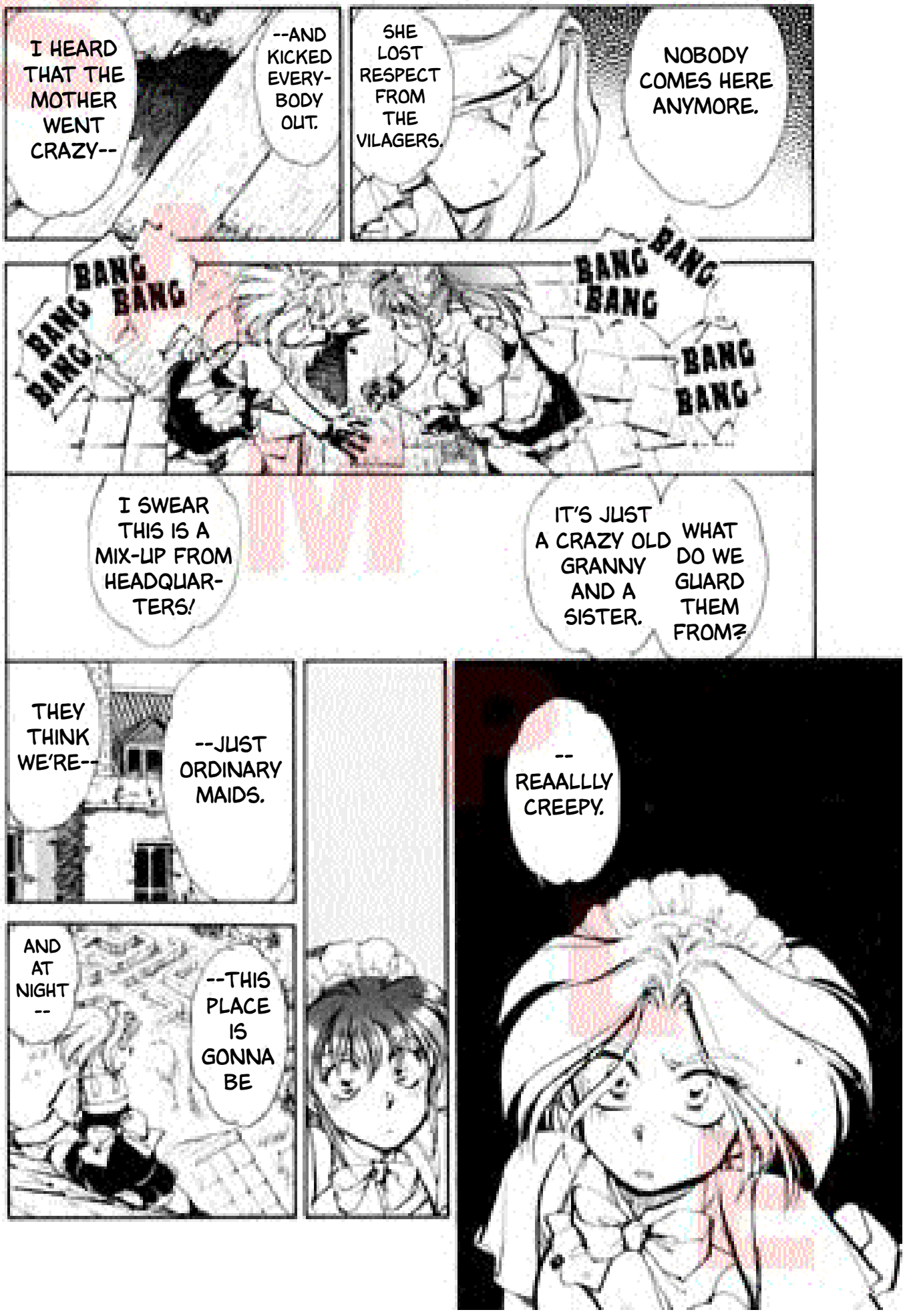



SAN FIOLITO MONASTERY

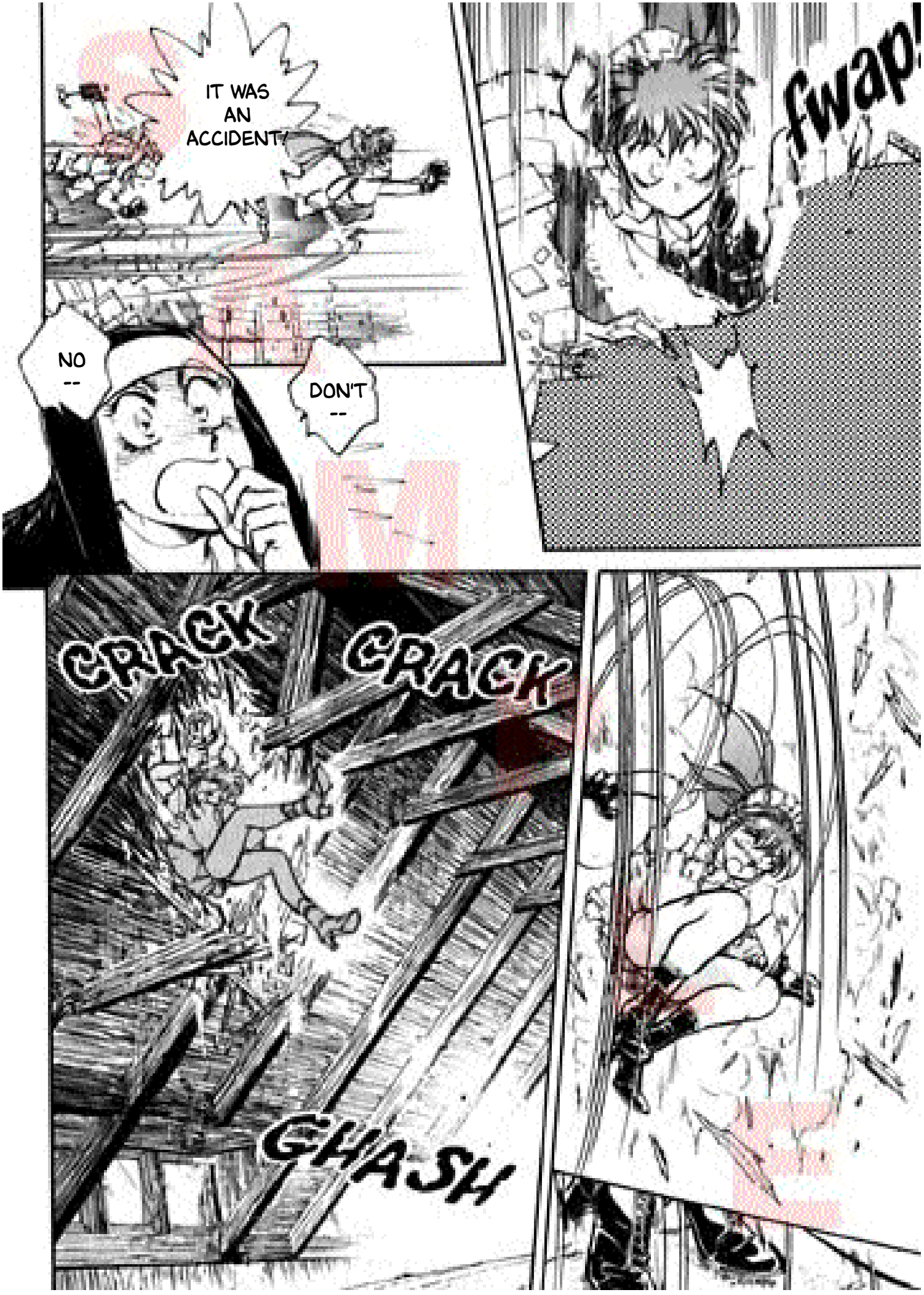

PLEASE ...
WHAT?!
PLEASE BE CAREFUL
SOME OF THE BEAMS ARE ROTTEN.
UH --
OH ...
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US BEFORE?
YOU SURE
YOU WANNA DO THIS?
IT'LL TAKE US FOREVER TO FIX THIS RUIN.


I'VE HEARD YOU ARE BOTH EXCEPT-IONALLY TALENTED MAIDS.
AND THAT YOU CAN DO ANYTHING ...
COOKING, WASHING, CLEANING ...
CARP-ENTRY, GARD-ENING ...
SEWING, PAINTING ...
PILING BRICKS, PLASTERING, INTERIOR REMODELING ...
WELL, EH-
WE'RE GUARD MAIDS.
WE FIGHT.
WE ARE QUITE SHORT-HANDED.
IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR JUST THE TWO OF YOU ...
WELL ...
YOU WANT US TO GUARD SOME-THING?
BUT YOU'RE PERFECT FOR OUR NEEDS.
MOTHER BUJOLD WISTABLE (63)


I'M SORRY ...
FOR GIVING YOU SO MANY JOBS AT ONCE.
SISTER RICHELLE (18)
BUT FIRST ...
I'D LIKE YOU TO REPAIR YOUR ROOM RIGHT NOW.
UNTIL SEVERAL YEARS AGO, OVER FIFTY NUNS LIVED HERE.
THIS PLACE IS VERY OLD.
WITH NO-ONE LIVING HERE, IT QUICKLY GETS...
MAINTEN-ANCE OF THE BUILDING AND THE GARDENS WERE LEFT TO THE GARDENERS.
WOW.
WE'RE GONNA SLEEP HERE ?
MOTHER WISTABLE AND SISTER ROCHELLE, SURVIVORS FROM THE OLD WORLD, ARE THE ONLY INHABITANTS.
YEE, THIS FLOOR
SQUEAK
SQUEAK

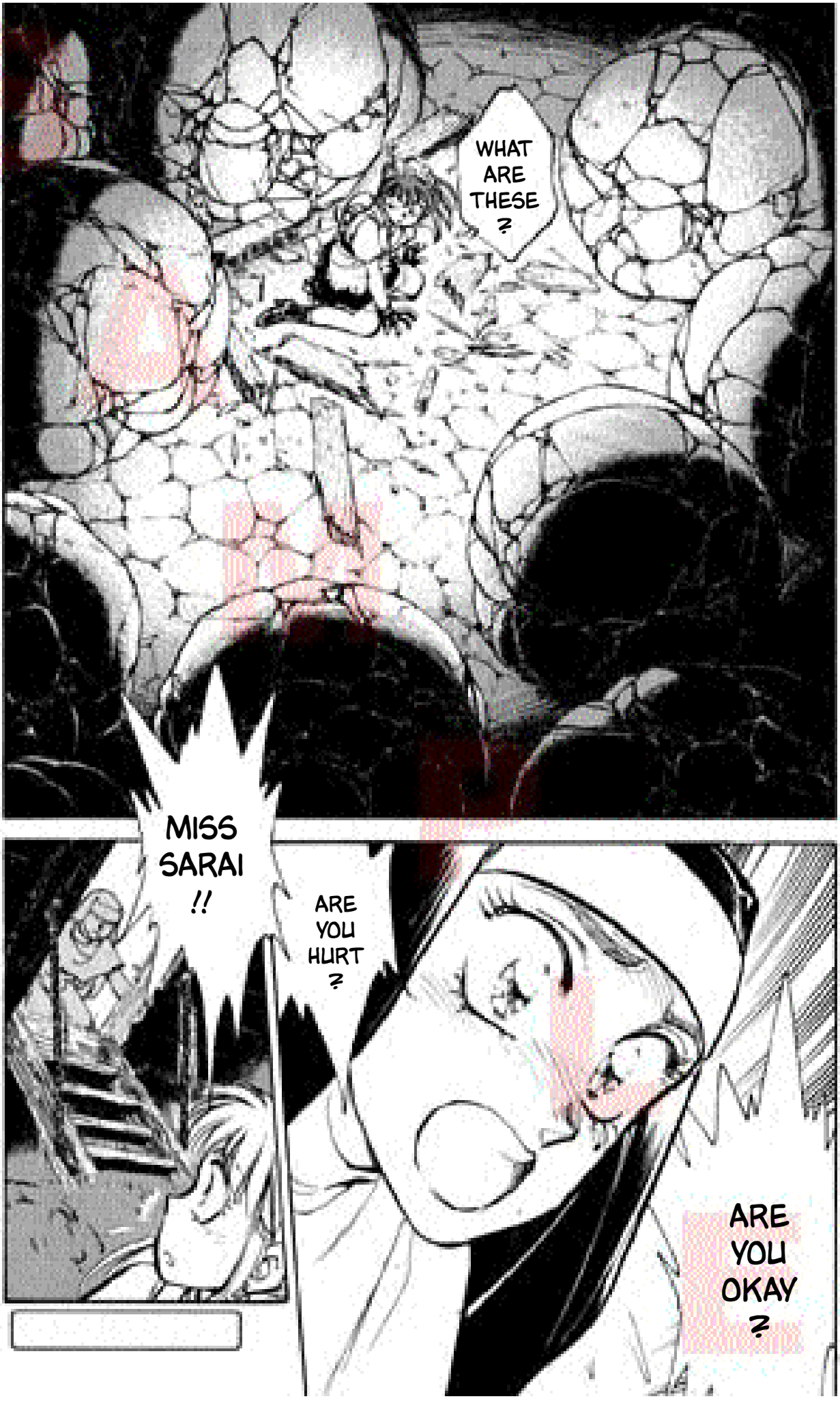

I HEARD THAT THE MOTHER WENT CRAZY--
--AND KICKED EVERY-BODY OUT.
SHE LOST RESPECT FROM THE VILAGERS.
NOBODY COMES HERE ANYMORE.
BANG BANG
BANG BANG
BANG BANG
BANG BANG
BANG BANG
I SWEAR THIS IS A MIX-UP FROM HEADQUAR-TERS!
IT'S JUST A CRAZY OLD GRANNY AND A SISTER.
WHAT DO WE GUARD THEM FROM?
THEY THINK WE'RE--
--JUST ORDINARY MAIDS.
AND AT NIGHT --
--THIS PLACE IS GONNA BE
--REAALLLY CREEPY.


THE BIGGEST MIX-UP ...
IF YOU FACE A CHAL-LENGE ...
AND BACK DOWN FROM IT, IT REFLECTS BADLY ON THE CAPABLE MAIDS.
YOU CAN LEAVE, FLICKER.
SEND SOME-ONE ELSE.
IS THAT YOU'RE HERE WITH ME!
I'VE HAD IT WITH YOUR BIG TALK,
YOU TWERP.
I'M NOT ENJOYING YOUR COMPANY, EITHER!!
bonk!


IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
NO --
DON'T --
fwap!
CRACK
CRACK
GHASH


CRACK!
GASP!
YEECK!


thud!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SARAI?
OW WW WW-
HOW MANY TONS...
DO YOU WEIGH?


WHAT ARE THESE ?
MISS SARAI !!
ARE YOU HURT ?
ARE YOU OKAY ?

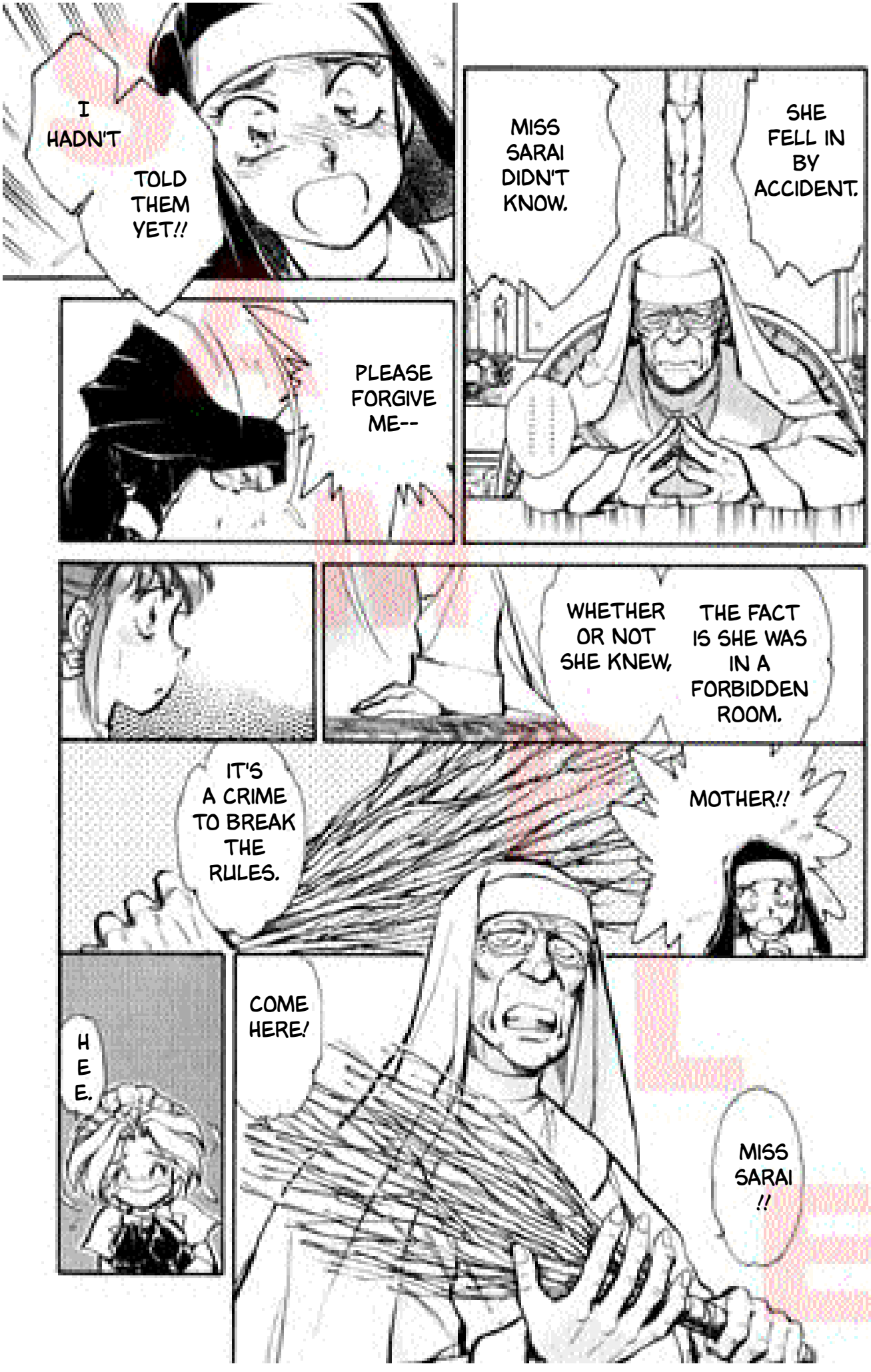

WORK·2
The Village
of Stone 2

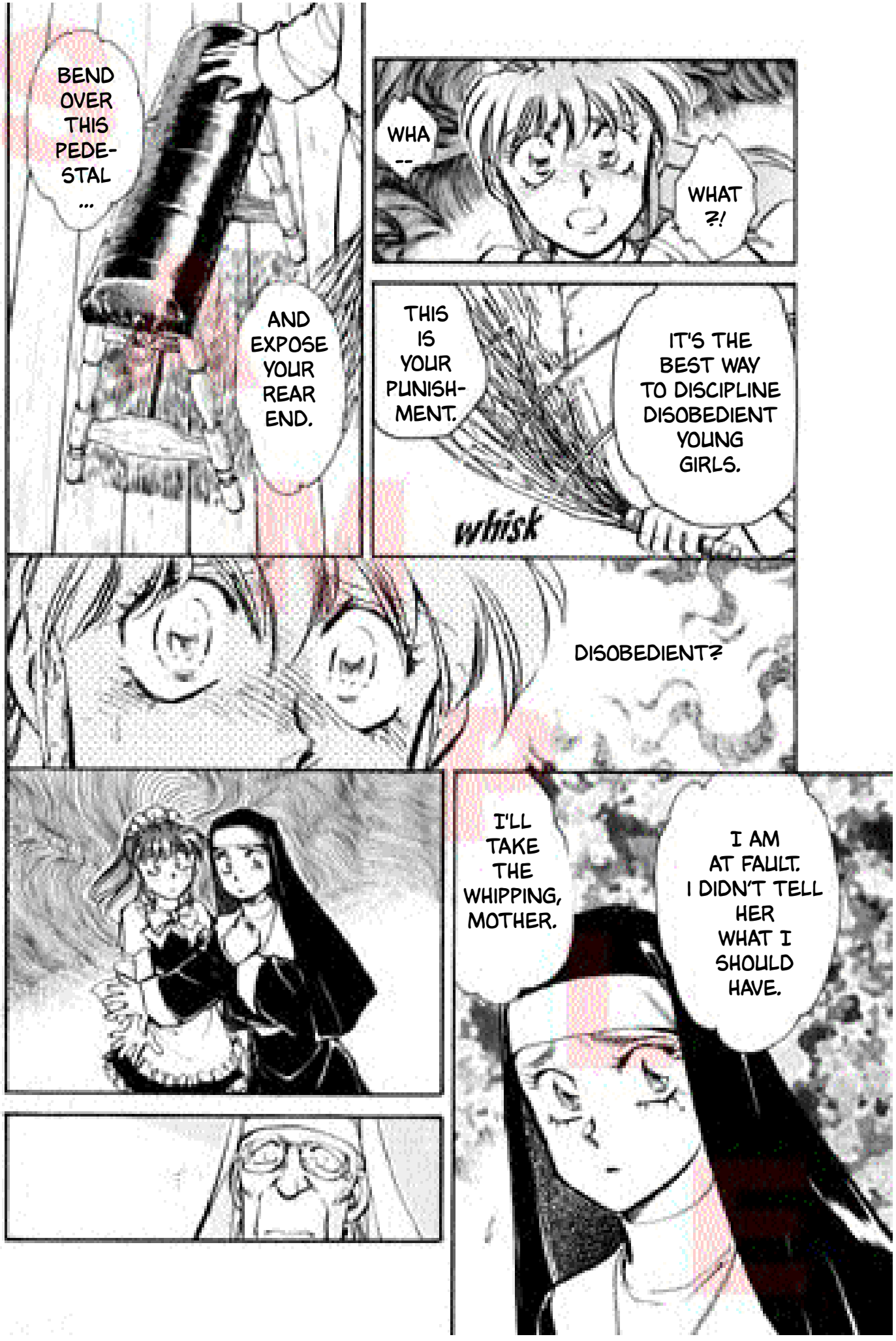

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MISS SARAI ?
WERE YOU HURT ?
WELL, I--
I'M REALLY OKAY. I JUST BUMPED MY HIPS.
NO WORIES.
BE SERIOUS! WE HAVE TO CHECK!
TURN AROUND ...
AND BEND OVER.


pwip
LIKE THIS ?
EEEEK !
WHA --
WHA WHA WHA
DON'T MOVE !!
touch
auu
touch

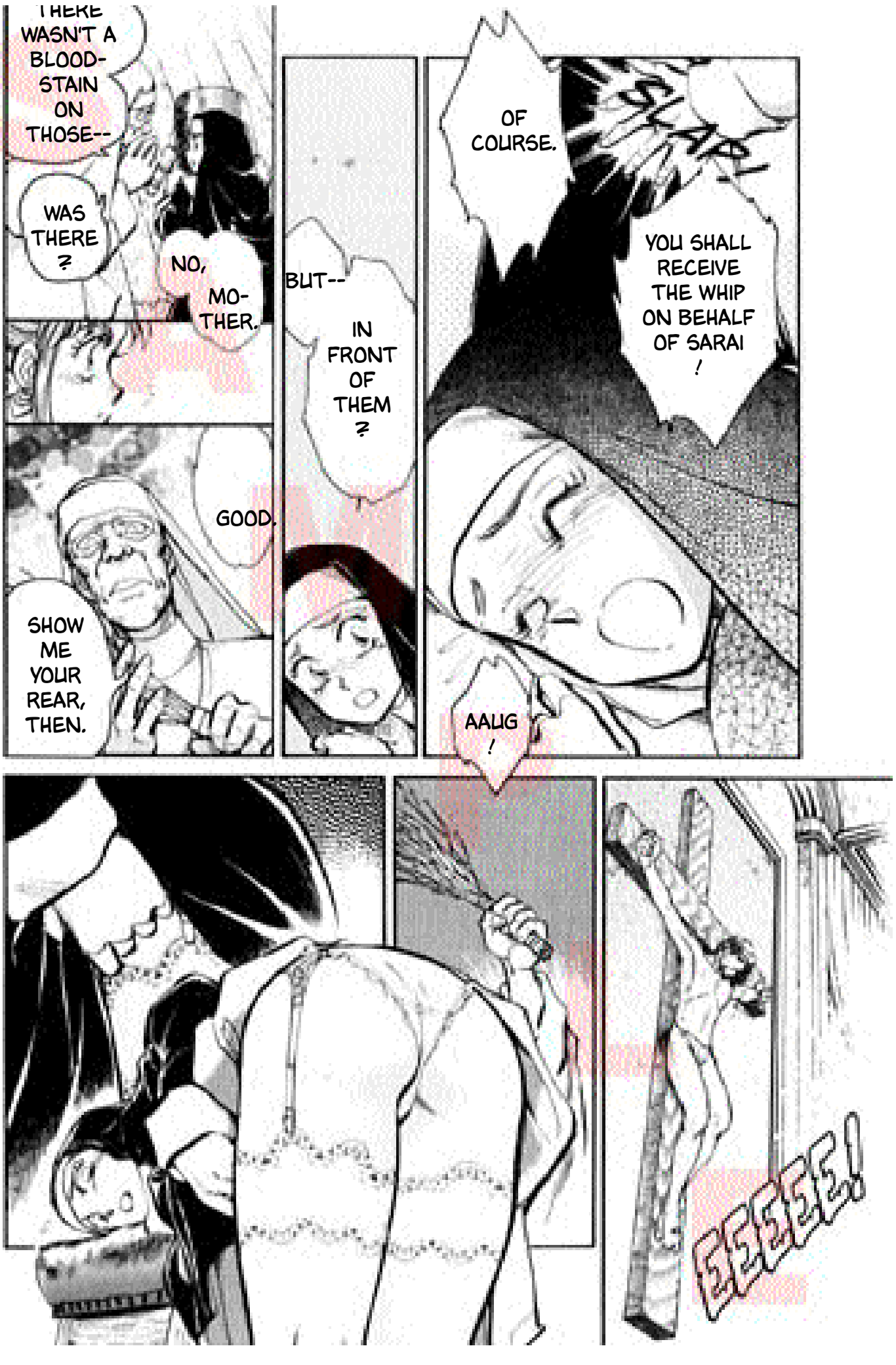

hnn nnn n
RUB RUB
WHAT BEAUTIFUL HIPS!
AND SOFT SKIN ...
squeeze
YEEE !
TH-
fwap!
THAT'S ENOUGH !!
I'M RELIEVED. YOU HAVE NO WOUNDS.
YOU'RE SO STRONG.
REALLY.
PF


WEREN'T YOU TOLD NEVER TO ENTER THAT ROOM...
MISS SARAI ?!
THE BASE MENT HAS BEEN SEALED !!
FOR MANY YEARS !!
EXCUSE ME
MOTHER --

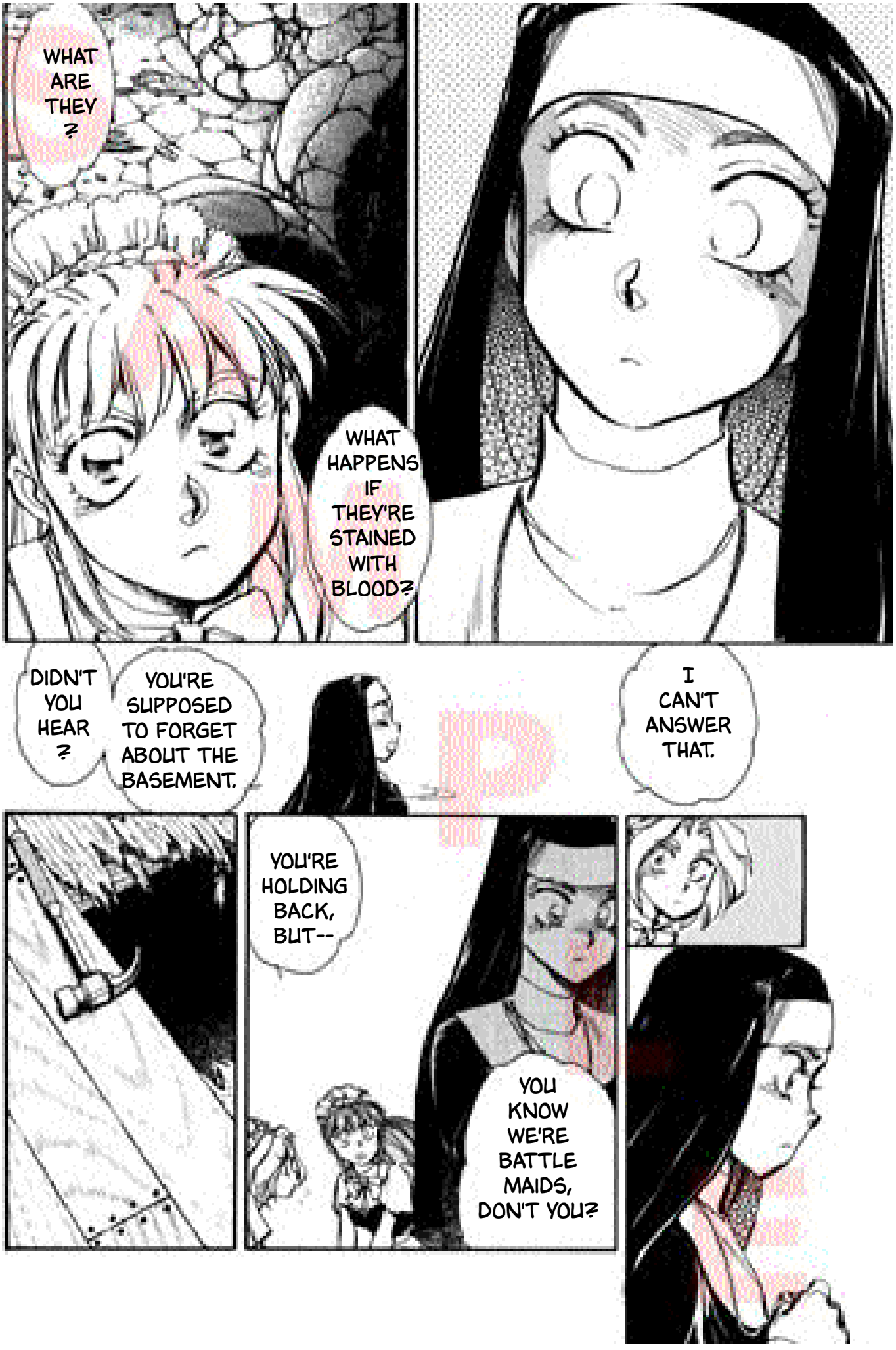

I HADN'T TOLD THEM YET!!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME--
MISS SARAI DIDN'T KNOW.
SHE FELL IN BY ACCIDENT.
WHETHER OR NOT SHE KNEW,
THE FACT IS SHE WAS IN A FORBIDDEN ROOM.
IT'S A CRIME TO BREAK THE RULES.
MOTHER!!
H E E.
COME HERE!
MISS SARAI !!

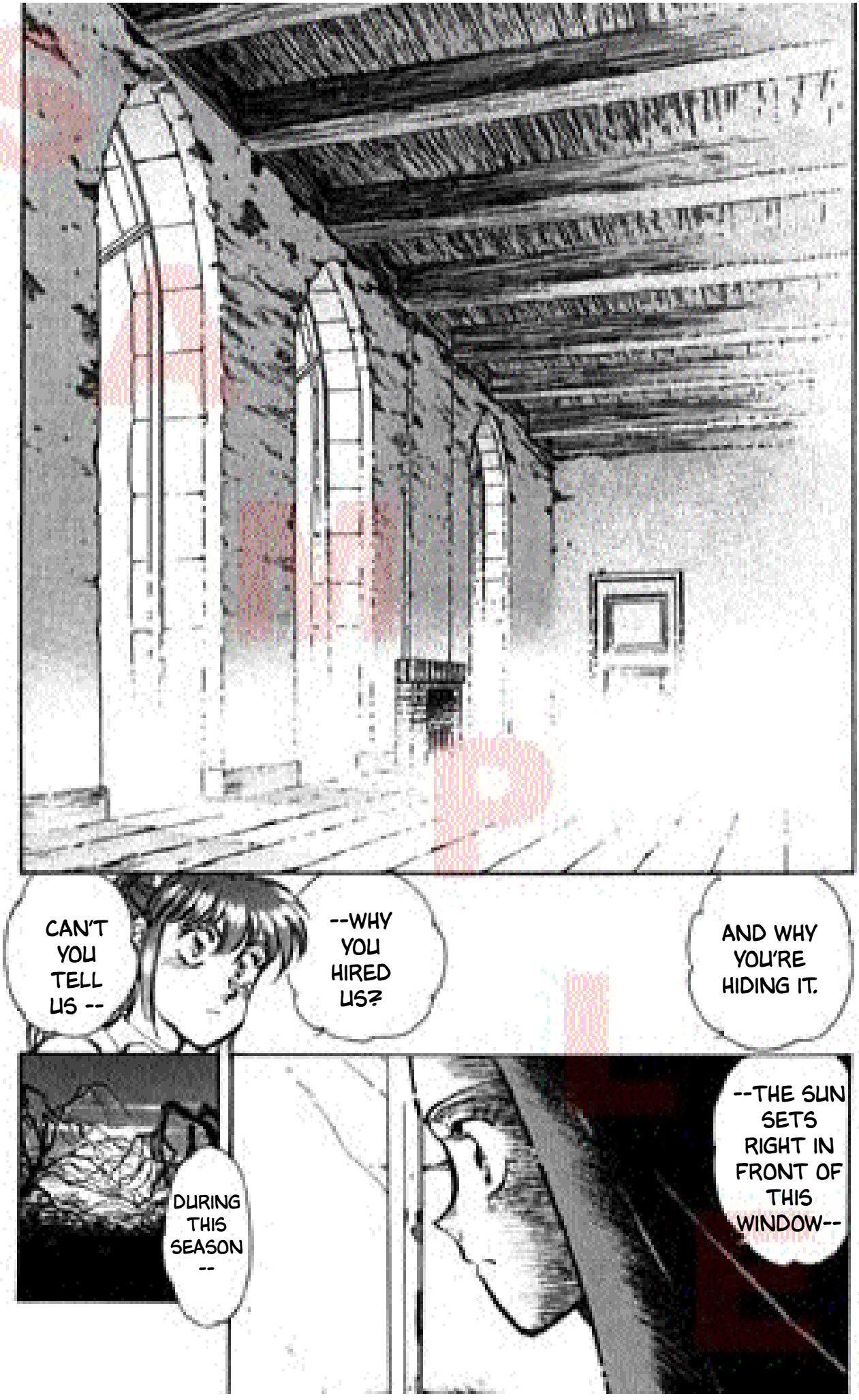

BEND OVER THIS PEDE-STAL ...
AND EXPOSE YOUR REAR END.
WHA --
WHAT ?!
THIS IS YOUR PUNISH-MENT.
IT'S THE BEST WAY TO DISCIPLINE DISOBEDIENT YOUNG GIRLS.
whisk
DISOBEDIENT?
I'LL TAKE THE WHIPPING, MOTHER.
I AM AT FAULT. I DIDN'T TELL HER WHAT I SHOULD HAVE.

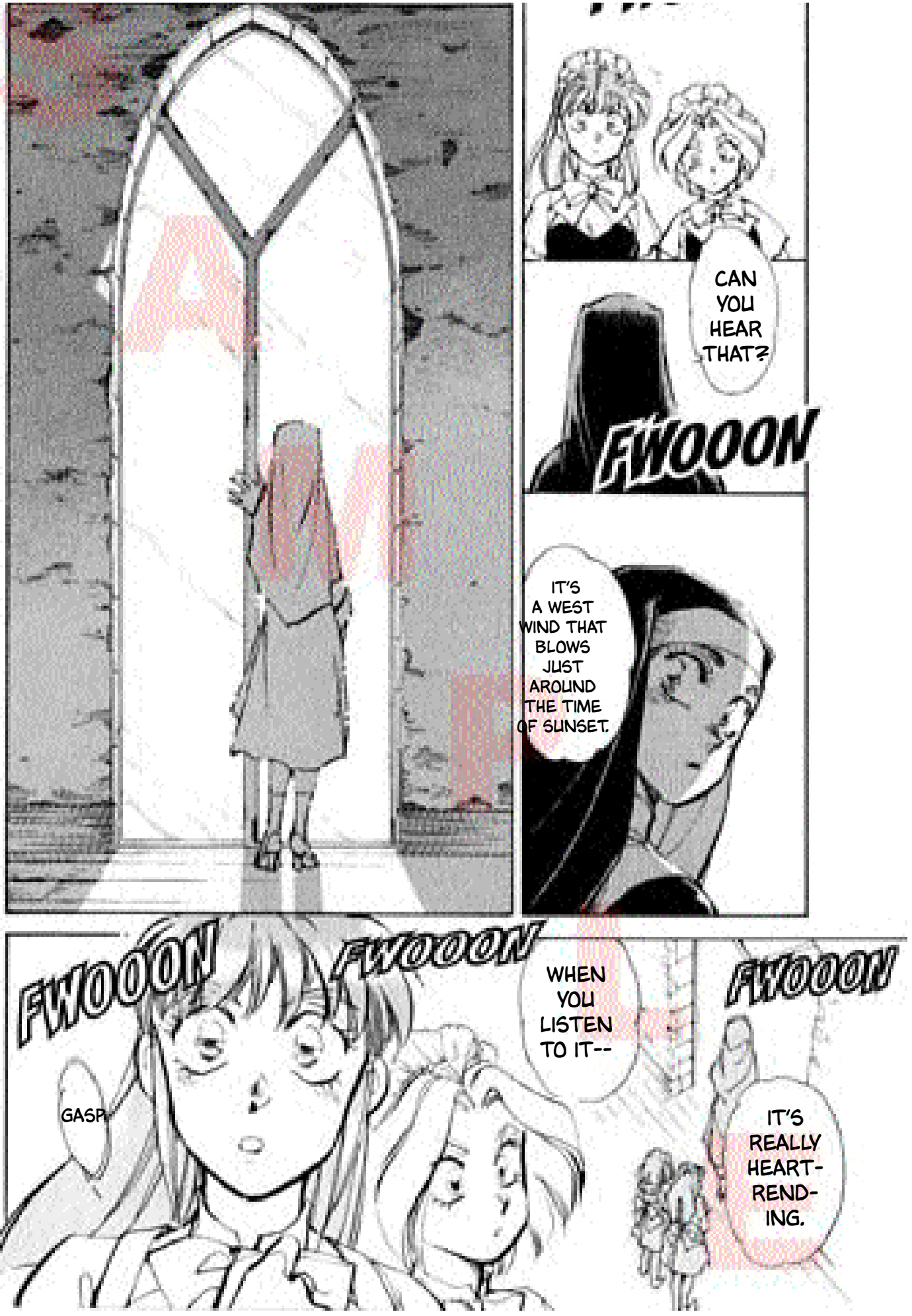

I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE ...
THIS ONE LAST TIME.
Y-
YES

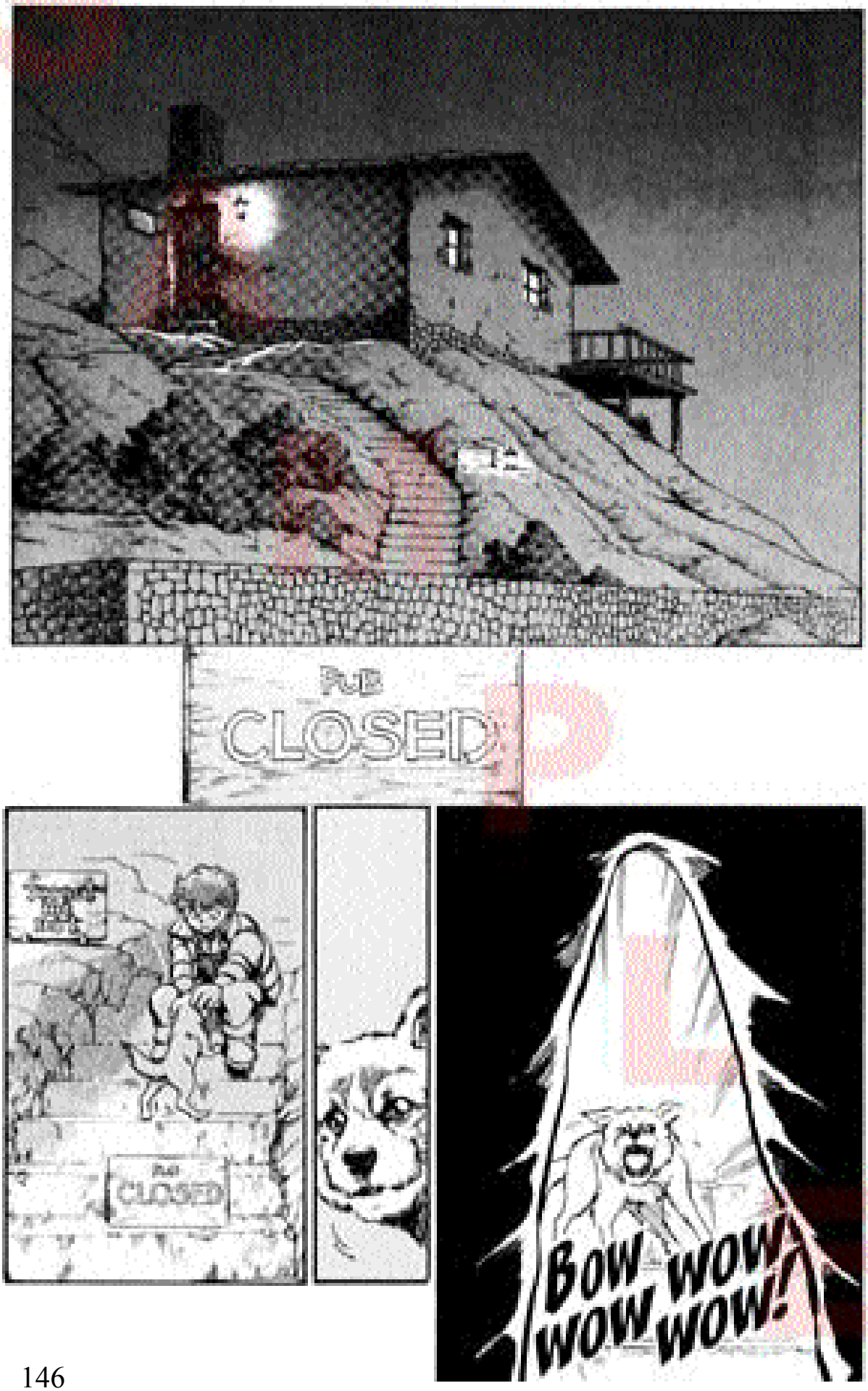

THERE WASN'T A BLOOD-STAIN ON THOSE--
WAS THERE ?
NO, MO-THER.
GOOD.
SHOW ME YOUR REAR, THEN.
BUT--
IN FRONT OF THEM ?
OF COURSE.
SNAP!
YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE WHIP ON BEHALF OF SARAI !
AAUG !
EEEEE!


I'M SORRY.
WE CAUSED THIS TROUBLE.
NO.
IT WAS BECAUSE I'M ABSENT-MINDED.
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU SOME VERY IMPORTANT THINGS.
THAT BRANCH WHIP ...
IS IT PAIN-FUL?
SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL FEEL IT.
MOTHER LIKES TO WHIP THE REAR ENDS OF YOUNG GIRLS.
SHE'LL DO IT FOR THE SMALLEST REASONS LIKE--
.... PUNISH-MENT, EDUCATION, DISCIPLINE ....
SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED.
WELL ... YES ....
IT IS ...
GULP
RICH-ELLE.


WHAT ARE THEY?
WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY'RE STAINED WITH BLOOD?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO FORGET ABOUT THE BASEMENT.
I CAN'T ANSWER THAT.
YOU'RE HOLDING BACK, BUT--
YOU KNOW WE'RE BATTLE MAIDS, DON'T YOU?


CAN'T YOU TELL US --
--WHY YOU HIRED US?
AND WHY YOU'RE HIDING IT.
DURING THIS SEASON --
--THE SUN SETS RIGHT IN FRONT OF THIS WINDOW--


CAN YOU HEAR THAT?
FWOOON
IT'S A WEST WIND THAT BLOWS JUST AROUND THE TIME OF SUNSET.
FWOOON
FWOOON
GASP
WHEN YOU LISTEN TO IT--
FWOOON
IT'S REALLY HEART-REND-ING.

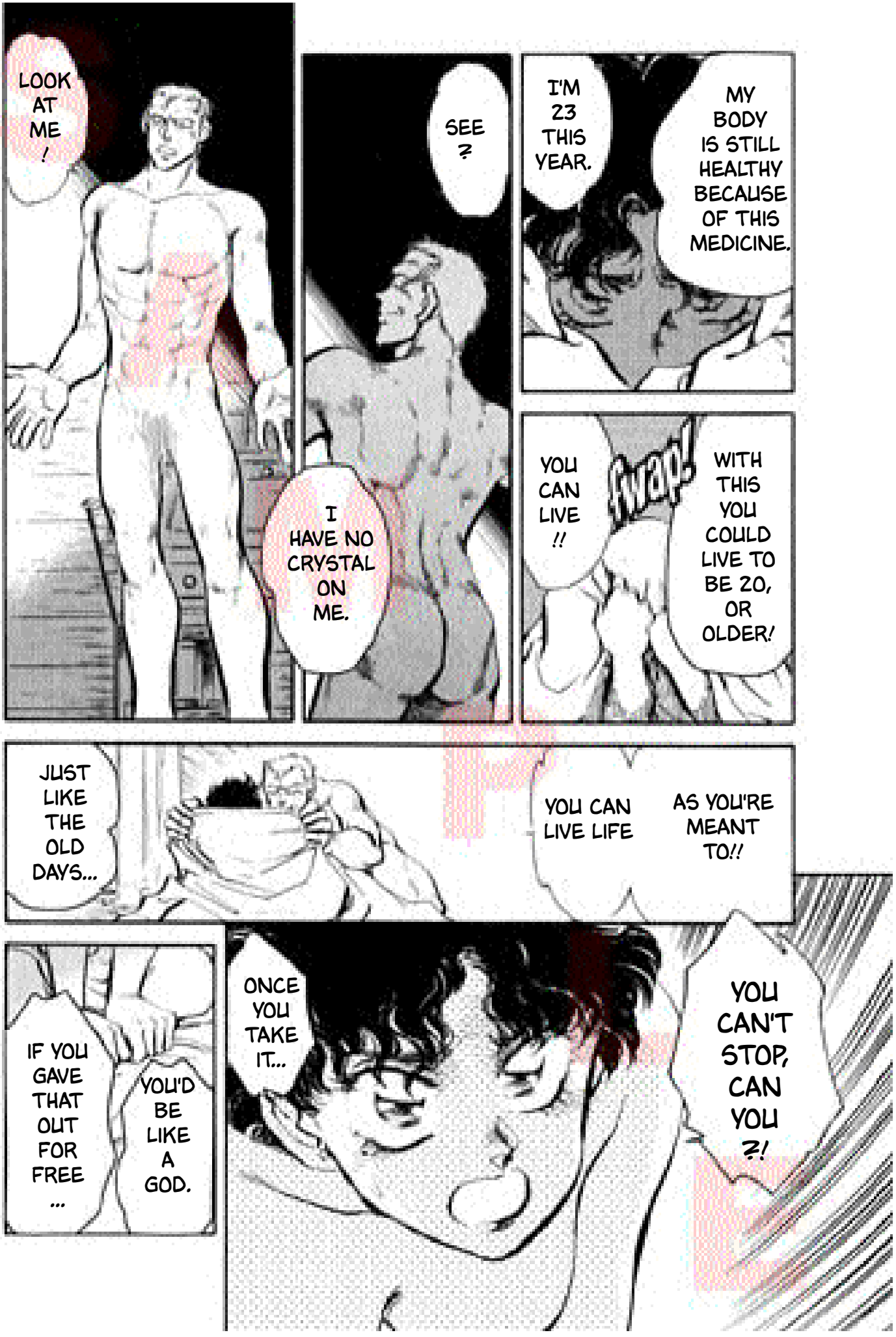

CLOSED
CLOSED
Bow wow wow wow!

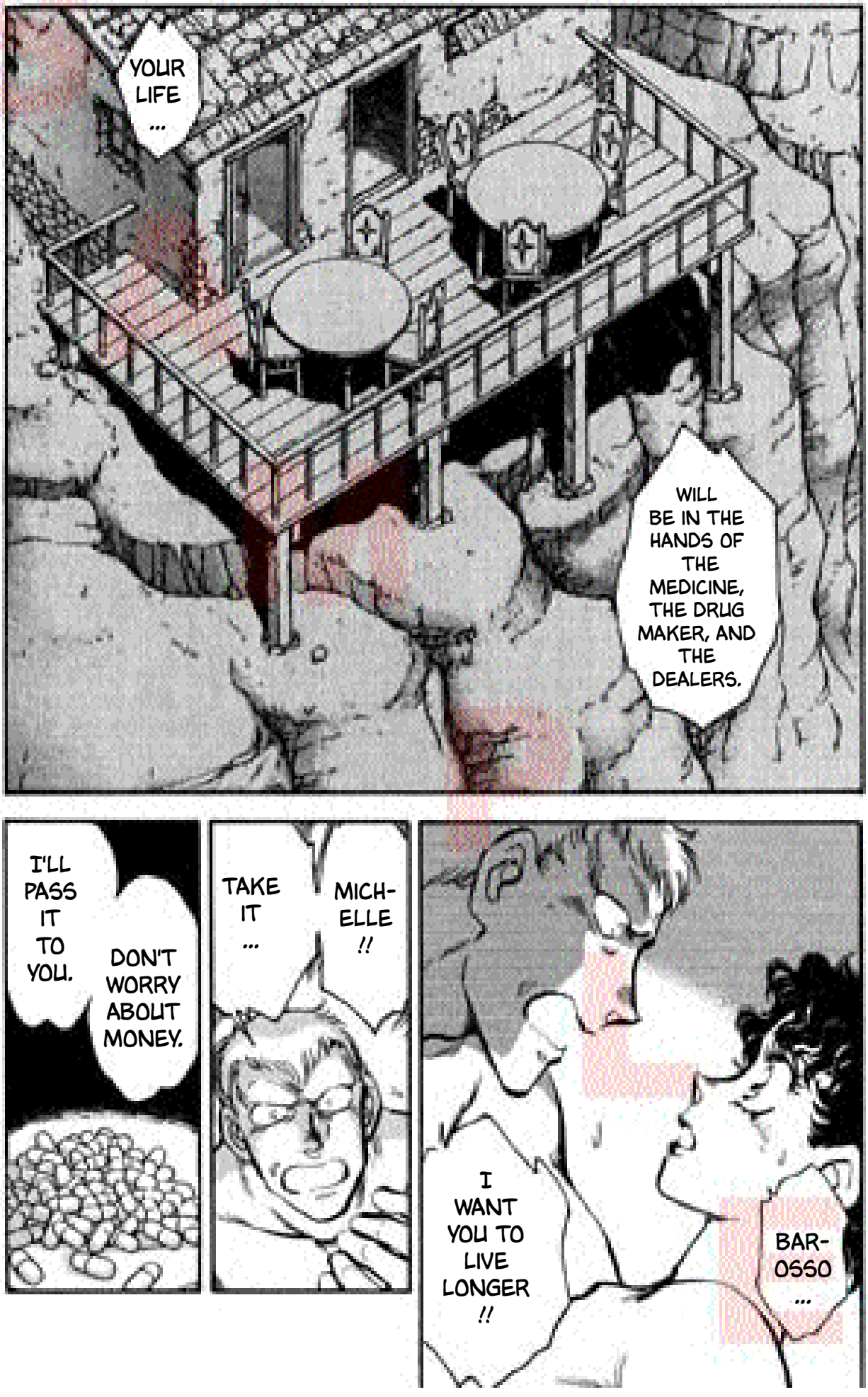

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, KID ?
BOW
WOW
AREN'T YOU OPENING UP FOR BUSINESS ?
BOW
WOW
GRRRRRR
WOW
QUIET, YOU STUPID DOG!
TAP
BAR-OSSO IS HERE --
ISN'T HE ?
PLEASE --
WAIT.
MR. HEAD-MAN ...
MR. HEAD-MAN !


AH
AH


MI
.. MICHELLE
YOU?!


I'M 18.
IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE CRYSTALLIZATION STARTED.
IT'S ALL NATURAL.
SQUEEZE
OUCH!
DON'T BE SO ROUGH !!
I'M SENSITIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CRYSTAL-LIZATION.
rub
rub
THE BEGINNING...
TAKE THIS !!
IT'S NOT TOO LATE YET !!
BARO-SSO !!
I TOLD YOU I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.


LOOK AT ME !
I HAVE NO CRYSTAL ON ME.
SEE ?
I'M 23 THIS YEAR.
MY BODY IS STILL HEALTHY BECAUSE OF THIS MEDICINE.
YOU CAN LIVE !!
Swap!
WITH THIS YOU COULD LIVE TO BE 20, OR OLDER!
JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS...
YOU CAN LIVE LIFE AS YOU'RE MEANT TO!!
IF YOU GAVE THAT OUT FOR FREE ...
YOU'D BE LIKE A GOD.
ONCE YOU TAKE IT...
YOU CAN'T STOP, CAN YOU ?!


YOUR LIFE ...
WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF THE MEDICINE, THE DRUG MAKER, AND THE DEALERS.
I'LL PASS IT TO YOU.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT MONEY.
TAKE IT ...
MICH-ELLE !!
I WANT YOU TO LIVE LONGER !!
BAR-OSSO ...


SLAM
SORRY TO INTER-RUPT ...
SUCH A TENDER MOMENT.


IN THE CRY OF THE HEART-BREAKING WEST WIND...
WE HEARD THE ABOMINABLE SOUNDS OF DRUDGERY, AND OF BEASTS.
VILLAGERS CALL THEM ...
THE VOICES OF ZOMBIES.



WORK 2 The Village of Stone 3


GYAH
GYAH
GYAH
kikkkkk——
kikkkkk——
YOU KNOW ....
I REALLY DON'T LIKE THIS SORT OF THING.



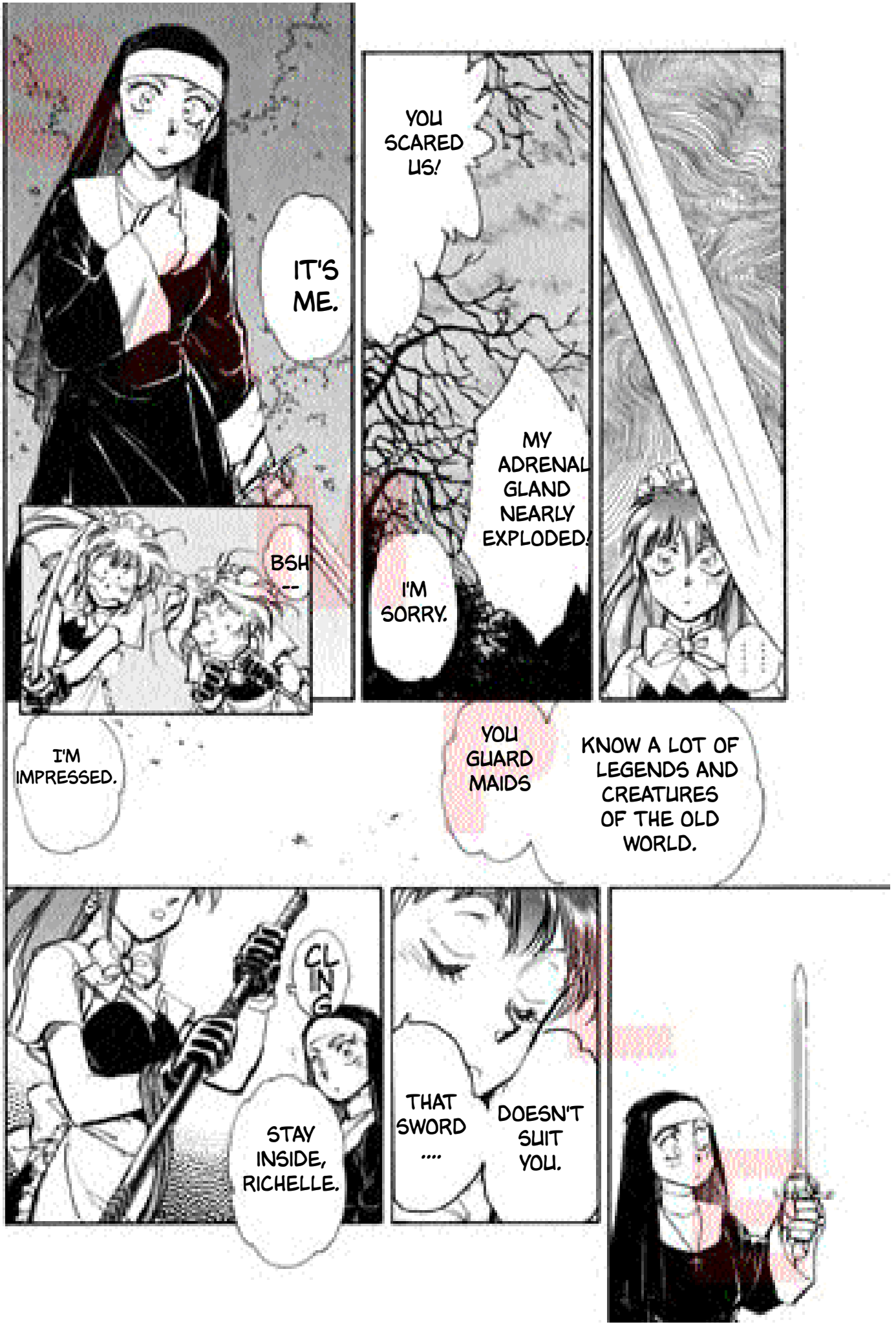

IT'S CREEPIER WHEN YOU'RE RIGHT BEHIND ME.

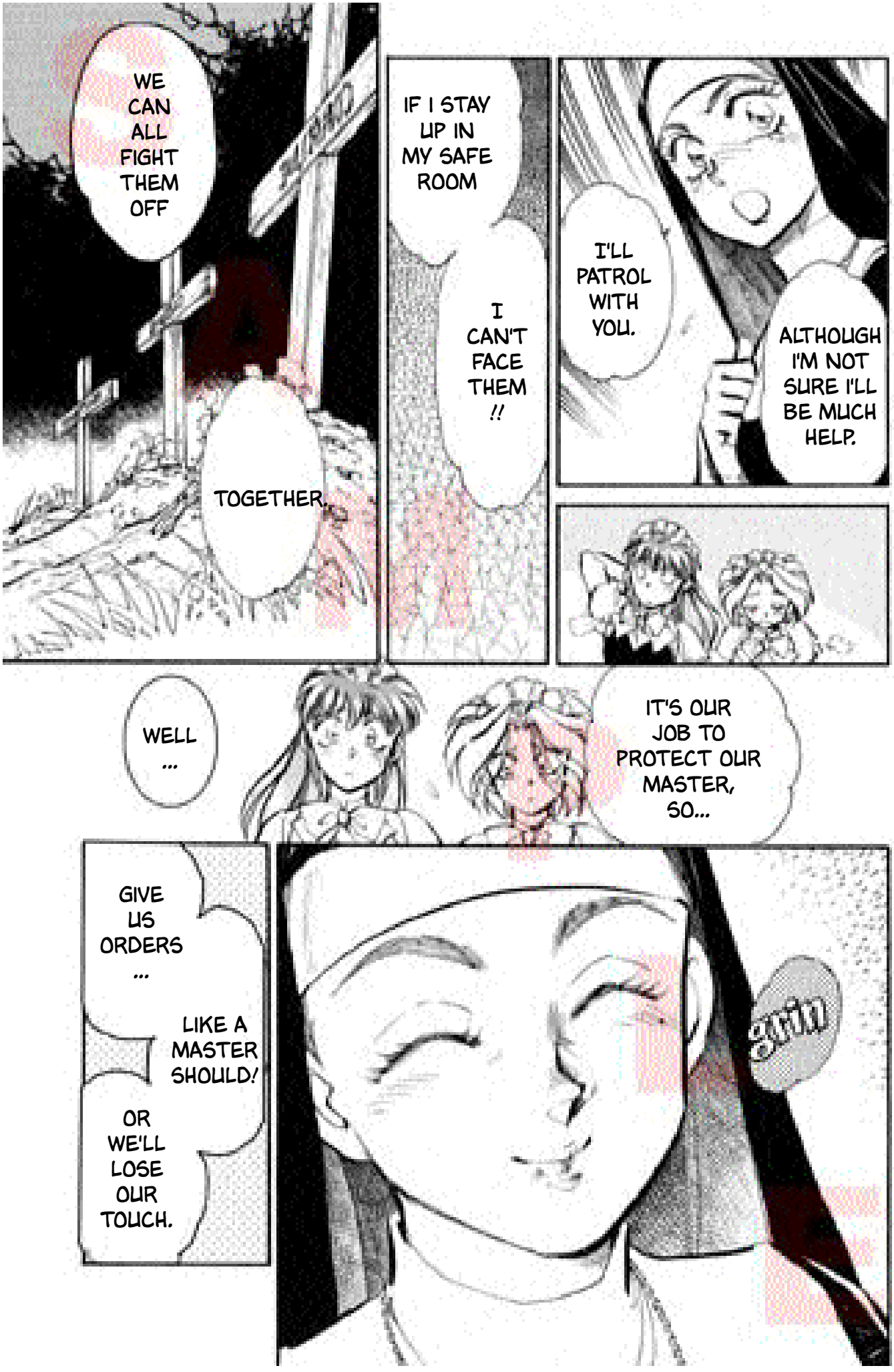

AREN'T ZOMBIES IMMORTAL DURING A FULL MOON?
THAT'S A WERE-WOLF.
FOR STARTERS, ZOMBIES ARE DEAD.

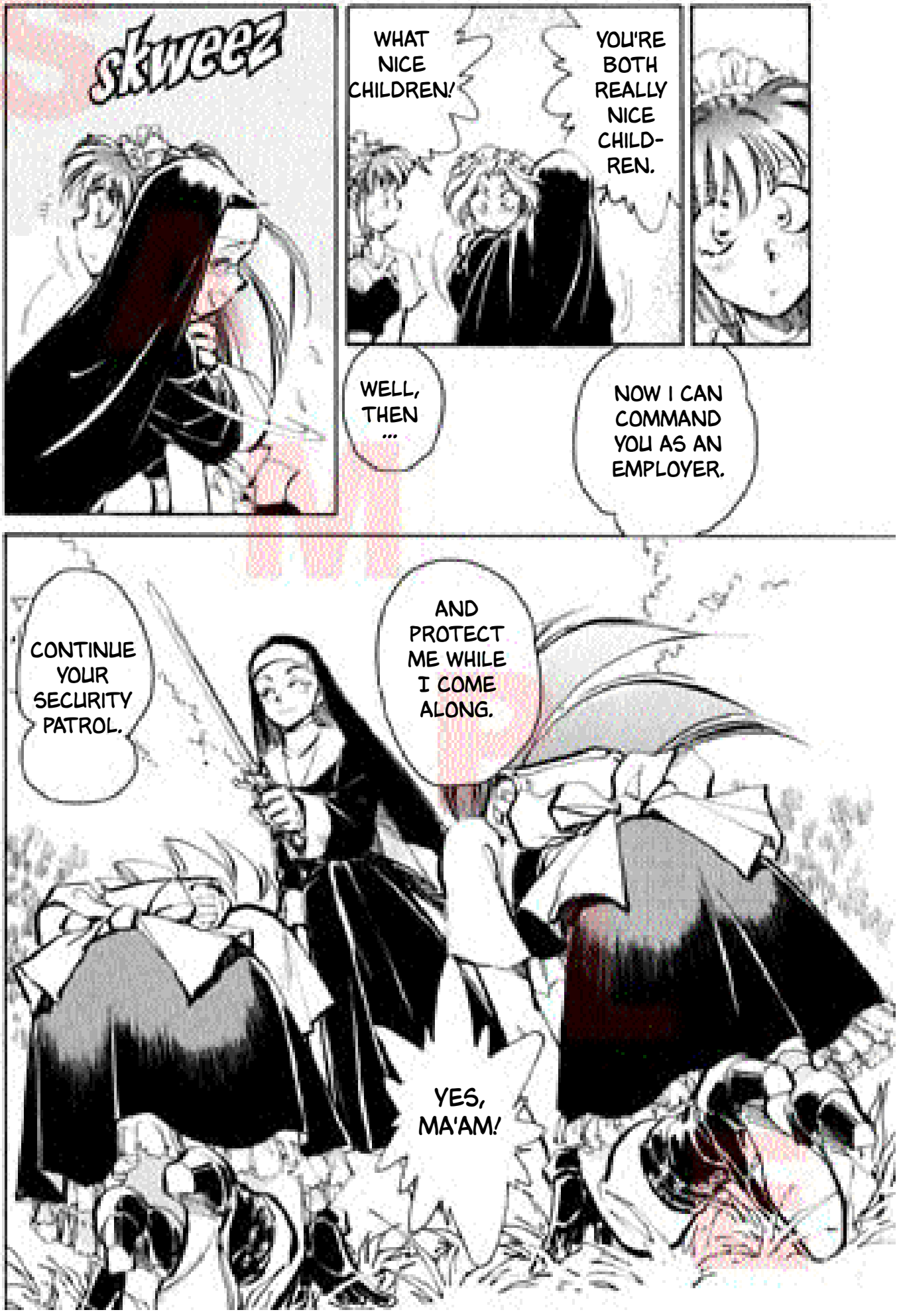

ZOMBIES ...
COME OUT OF GRAVES ...
DECOM-POSED.
THEY ATTACK LIVE HUMANS ....
AND EAT THEM.
MURDERED HUMANS THEN BECOME ZOMBIES ...
THEY FLOCK TOGETHER, FOLLOWING THE SMELL OF BLOOD.
STOP IT, YOU DOPE !!
ENOUGH OF YOUR CREEPY IMAGINATION!! YOU'RE SCARING ME, TOO!!
yeeep


THESE GRAVES ARE ALL FROM THE OLD WORLD.
THE BODIES ARE ALL DECAYED.
BUT ...
THOSE ARE NEW GRAVES.
LOOK
BRITTANY

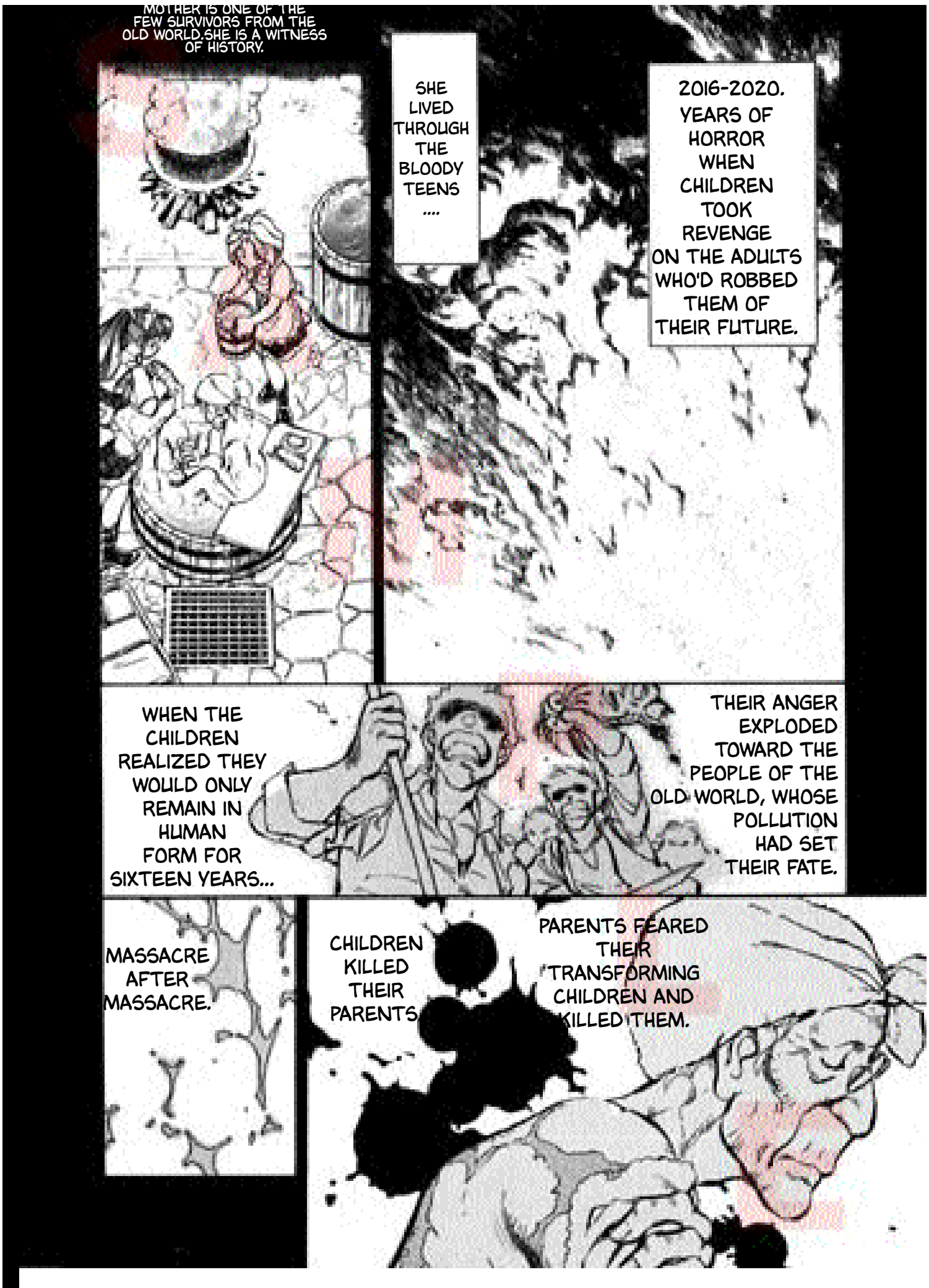

ZWIP!
ZWIP!
DHM
DHM
DHM
DHM
za
za
za
za
za

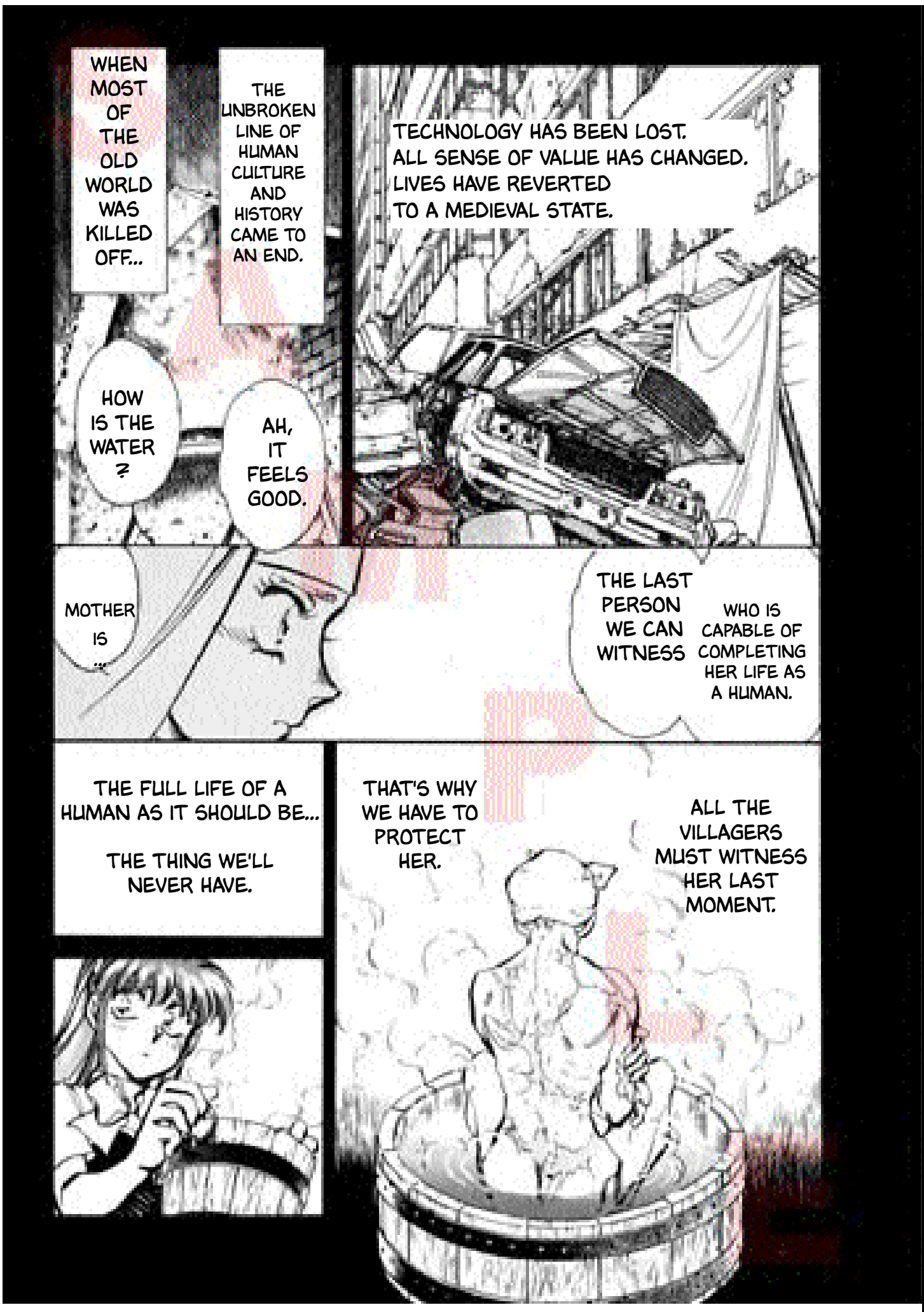

IT'S ME.
BSH --
YOU SCARED US!
MY ADRENAL GLAND NEARLY EXPLODED!
I'M SORRY.
I'M IMPRESSED.
YOU GUARD MAIDS
KNOW A LOT OF LEGENDS AND CREATURES OF THE OLD WORLD.
CL ING
STAY INSIDE, RICHELLE.
THAT SWORD ....
DOESN'T SUIT YOU.

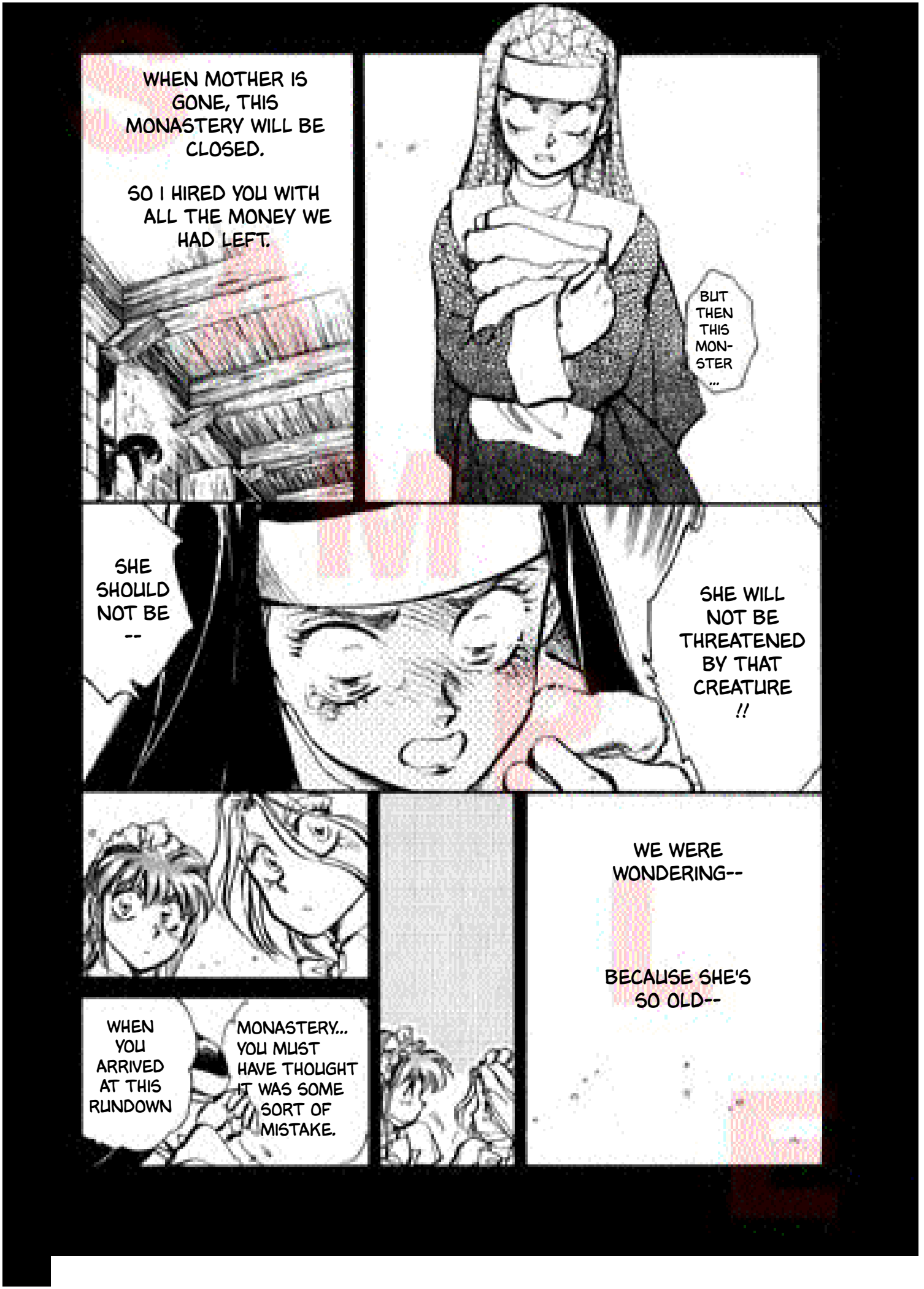

WE CAN ALL FIGHT THEM OFF
TOGETHER.
IF I STAY UP IN MY SAFE ROOM
I CAN'T FACE THEM !!
I'LL PATROL WITH YOU.
ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE I'LL BE MUCH HELP.
WELL ...
IT'S OUR JOB TO PROTECT OUR MASTER, SO...
GIVE US ORDERS ...
LIKE A MASTER SHOULD!
OR WE'LL LOSE OUR TOUCH.
SHIN


skweez
WHAT NICE CHILDREN!
YOU'RE BOTH REALLY NICE CHILD-REN.
WELL, THEN ...
NOW I CAN COMMAND YOU AS AN EMPLOYER.
CONTINUE YOUR SECURITY PATROL.
AND PROTECT ME WHILE I COME ALONG.
YES, MA'AM!

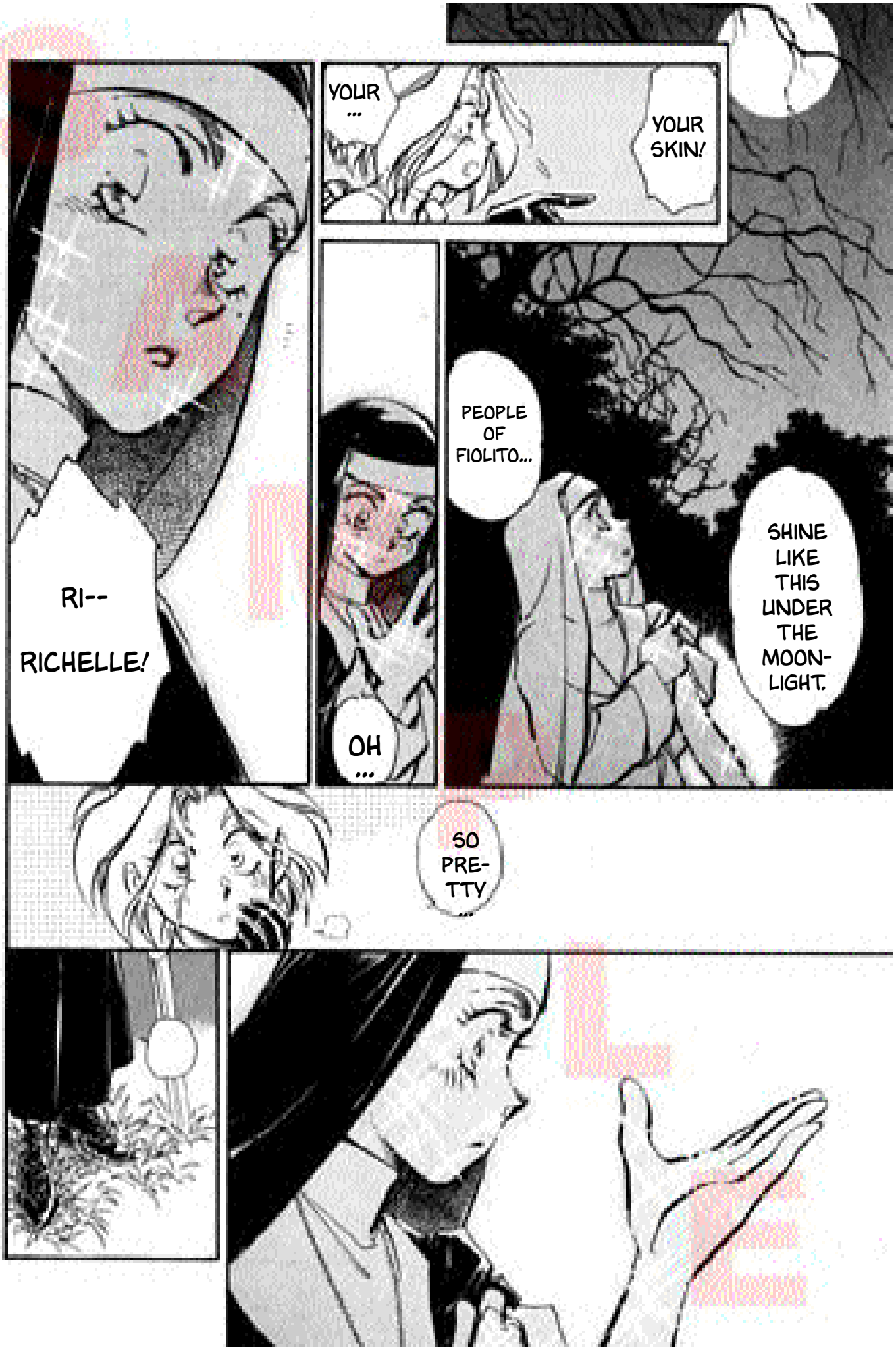

I'D LIKE YOU TO PROTECT MOTHER FROM THAT CREATURE.
THAT'S THE REASON I HIRED YOU GUARD MAIDS.
I'M CERTAIN THAT IT'S AFTER MOTHER.
I JUST DON'T KNOW WHY.
UNTIL REC-ENTLY ...
THE LAST 5 SURVIVING NUNS OF SAN FIOLITO WERE ABLE TO FIGHT IT OFF.
ZOMBIE?
THEN, WE LOST ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER.
WE KNEW, EVENTUALLY, WE'D BE DOWN TO ONE.
AND, FINALLY, I WAS THAT ONE.
THE ONE WHO SURVIVED

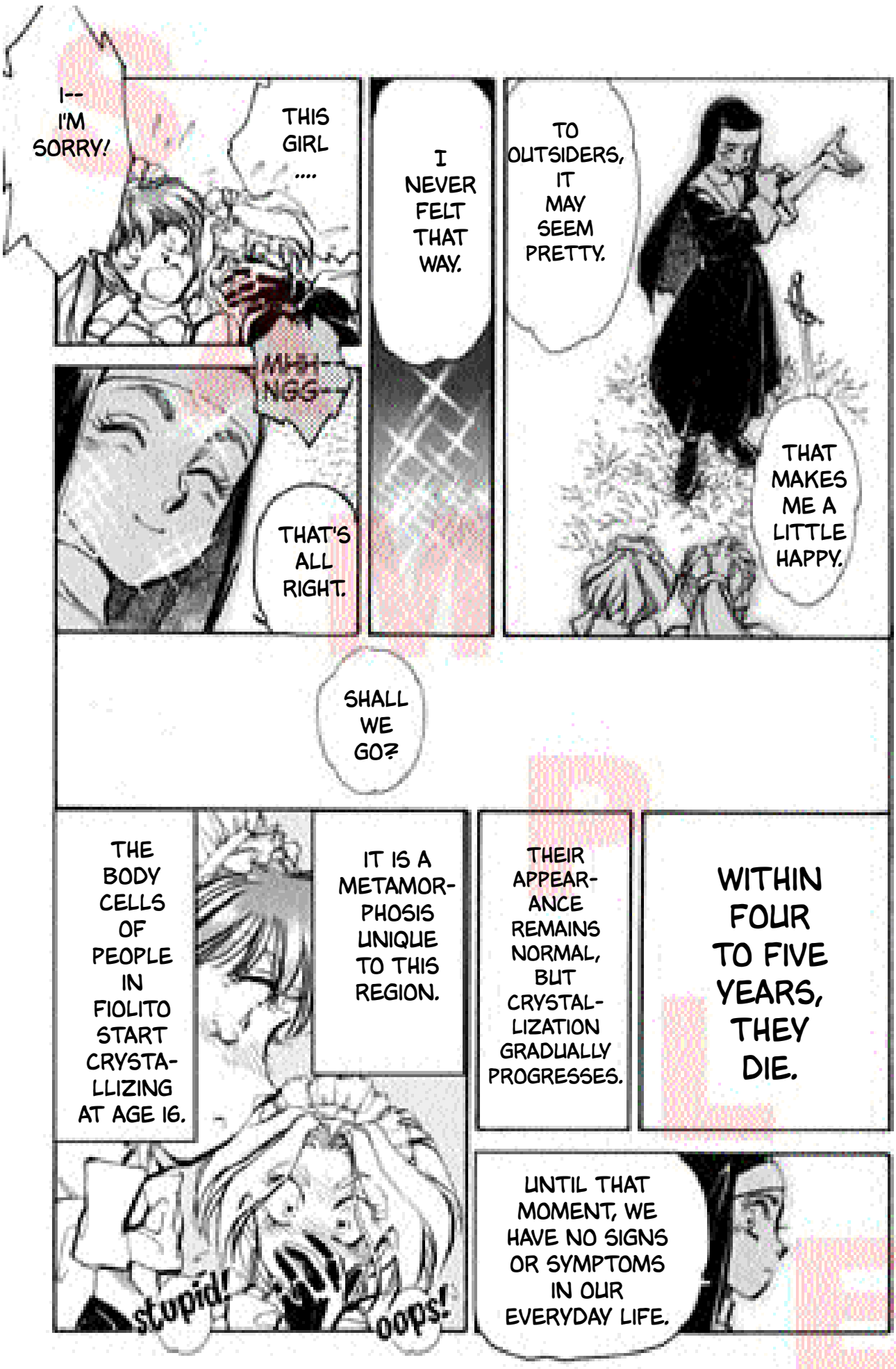

MOTHER IS ONE OF THE FEW SURVIVORS FROM THE OLD WORLD.SHE IS A WITNESS OF HISTORY.
SHE LIVED THROUGH THE BLOODY TEENS ....
2016-2020. YEARS OF HORROR WHEN CHILDREN TOOK REVENGE ON THE ADULTS WHO'D ROBBED THEM OF THEIR FUTURE.
WHEN THE CHILDREN REALIZED THEY WOULD ONLY REMAIN IN HUMAN FORM FOR SIXTEEN YEARS...
THEIR ANGER EXPLODED TOWARD THE PEOPLE OF THE OLD WORLD, WHOSE POLLUTION HAD SET THEIR FATE.
MASSACRE AFTER MASSACRE.
CHILDREN KILLED THEIR PARENTS.
PARENTS FEARED THEIR TRANSFORMING CHILDREN AND KILLED THEM.


WHEN MOST OF THE OLD WORLD WAS KILLED OFF...
THE UNBROKEN LINE OF HUMAN CULTURE AND HISTORY CAME TO AN END.
TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN LOST.
ALL SENSE OF VALUE HAS CHANGED.
LIVES HAVE REVERTED TO A MEDIEVAL STATE.
HOW IS THE WATER ?
AH, IT FEELS GOOD.
MOTHER IS ...
THE LAST PERSON WE CAN WITNESS
WHO IS CAPABLE OF COMPLETING HER LIFE AS A HUMAN.
THE FULL LIFE OF A HUMAN AS IT SHOULD BE...
THE THING WE'LL NEVER HAVE.
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO PROTECT HER.
ALL THE VILLAGERS MUST WITNESS HER LAST MOMENT.


WHEN MOTHER IS GONE, THIS MONASTERY WILL BE CLOSED.
SO I HIRED YOU WITH ALL THE MONEY WE HAD LEFT.
BUT THEN THIS MON-STER ...
SHE SHOULD NOT BE --
SHE WILL NOT BE THREATENED BY THAT CREATURE !!
WHEN YOU ARRIVED AT THIS RUNDOWN
MONASTERY... YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT IT WAS SOME SORT OF MISTAKE.
WE WERE WONDERING--
BECAUSE SHE'S SO OLD--


IT'S TRUE. SHE IS OLD.
YOU CAN TELL FROM WHAT SHE DID EARLIER.
SOME-TIMES SHE BECOMES IRRA-TIONAL.
PLEASE GO ALONG WITH HER.
SHE THINKS YOU'RE JUST IGNORANT CHAMBERMAIDS.
SHE MAY TREAT YOU LIKE CHILDREN, AND SPANK YOU OVER HER LAP.
HA HA HA
SOME-ONE'S LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT...


YOUR ...
YOUR SKIN!
RI-- RICHELLE!
OH ...
PEOPLE OF FIOLITO...
SHINE LIKE THIS UNDER THE MOON-LIGHT.
SO PRE-TTY ...


I-- I'M SORRY!
THIS GIRL ....
MMH-- NGG--
THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
I NEVER FELT THAT WAY.
TO OUTSIDERS, IT MAY SEEM PRETTY.
THAT MAKES ME A LITTLE HAPPY.
SHALL WE GO?
THE BODY CELLS OF PEOPLE IN FIOLITO START CRYSTA-LLIZING AT AGE 16.
IT IS A METAMOR-PHOSIS UNIQUE TO THIS REGION.
THEIR APPEAR-ANCE REMAINS NORMAL, BUT CRYSTAL-LIZATION GRADUALLY PROGRESSES.
WITHIN FOUR TO FIVE YEARS, THEY DIE.
stupid!
oops!
UNTIL THAT MOMENT, WE HAVE NO SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE.

WHEN CRYSTA-LIZATION REACHES A CERTAIN LEVEL, "INTEGRATION" OCCURS.

CRYSTALS FROM THE ENTIRE BODY FORM A SINGLE CRYSTAL.

THE TRAN-SITION IS DRA-MATIC.

IT BEGINS FROM THE TOES.

FIRST, THE FEET BECOME LIKE STONE.

WITHIN 3 TO 4 HOURS, THE CHANGE SPREADS THROUGH THE ENTIRE BODY.

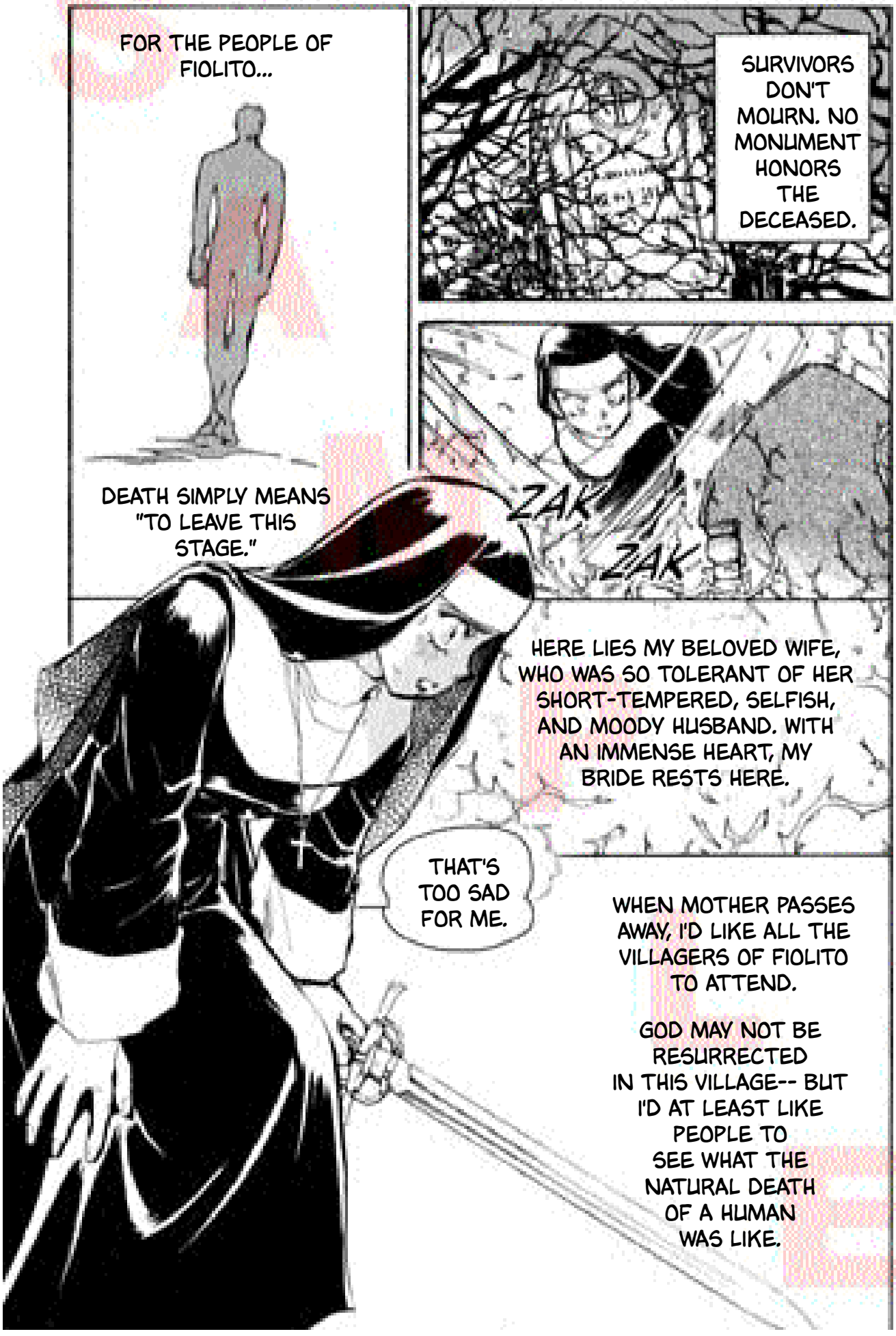
ONCE INTEGRATION BEGINS, THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT.

PEOPLE HEAD TO THE ENDING PLACE,

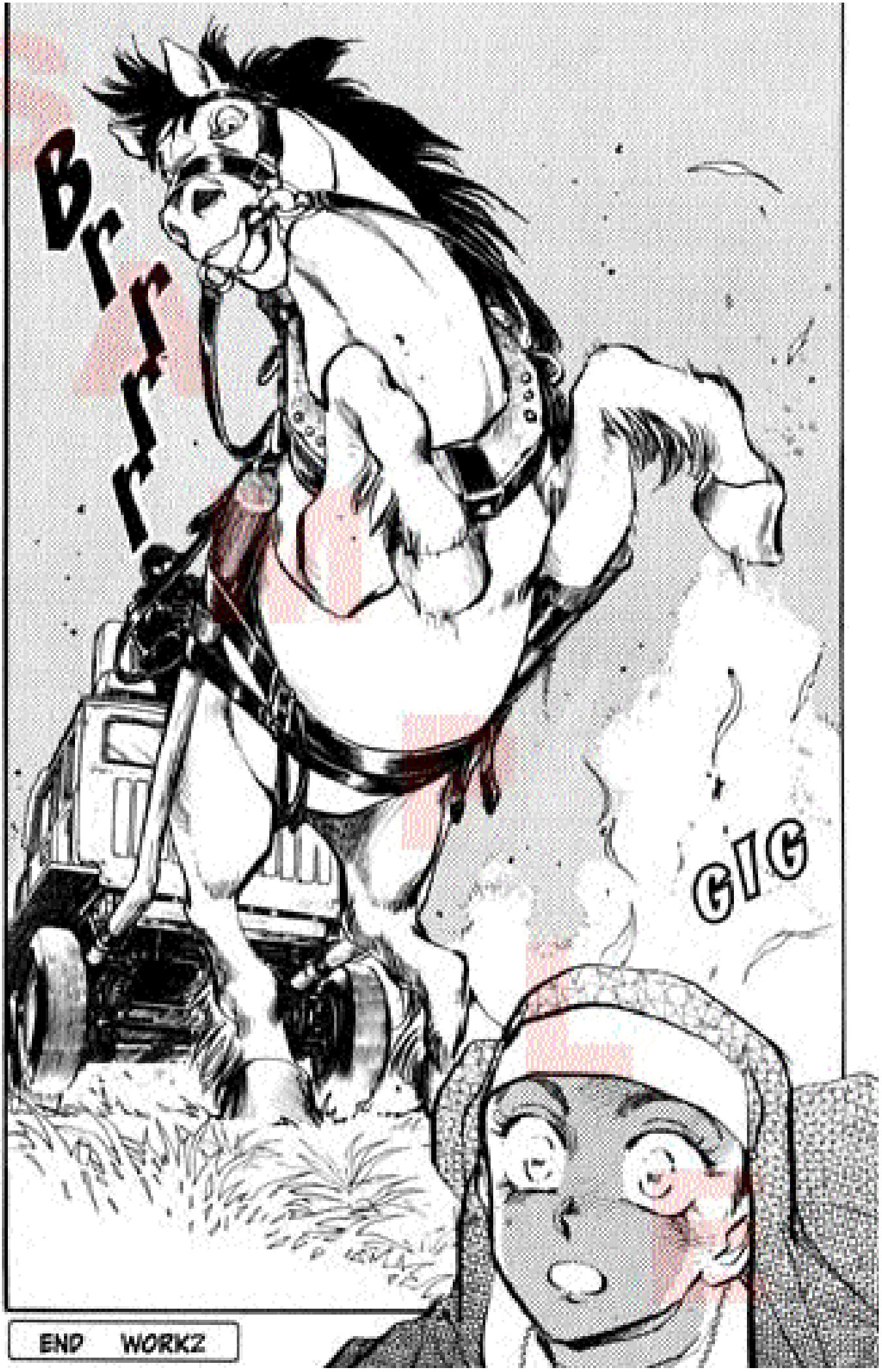
OR THE "VALLEY OF THE REST". THEY MOVE QUICKLY, USING THE TIME THEY HAVE LEFT.

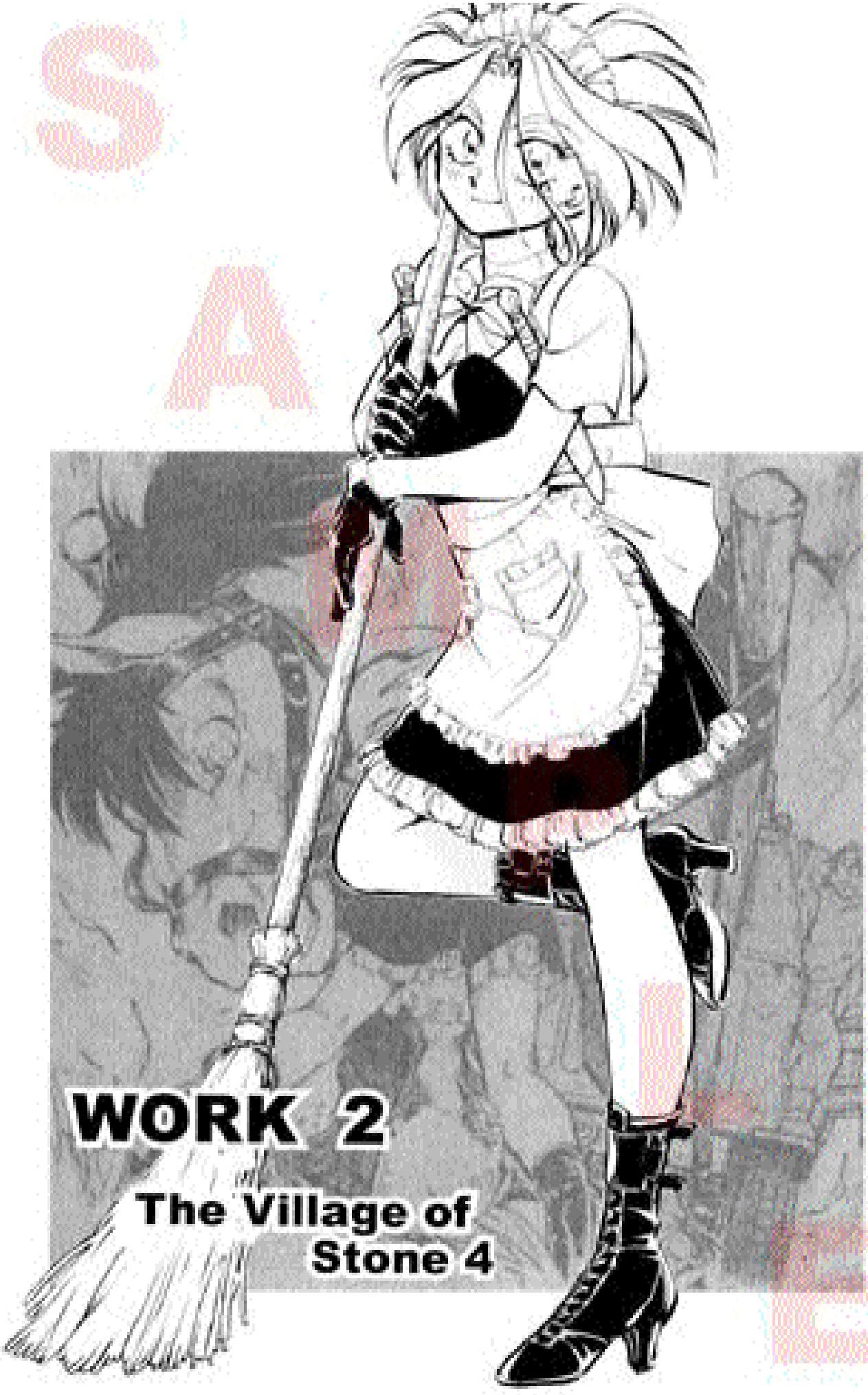
IN FIOLITO, WE NO LONGER BUILD INDIVIDUAL GRAVES.

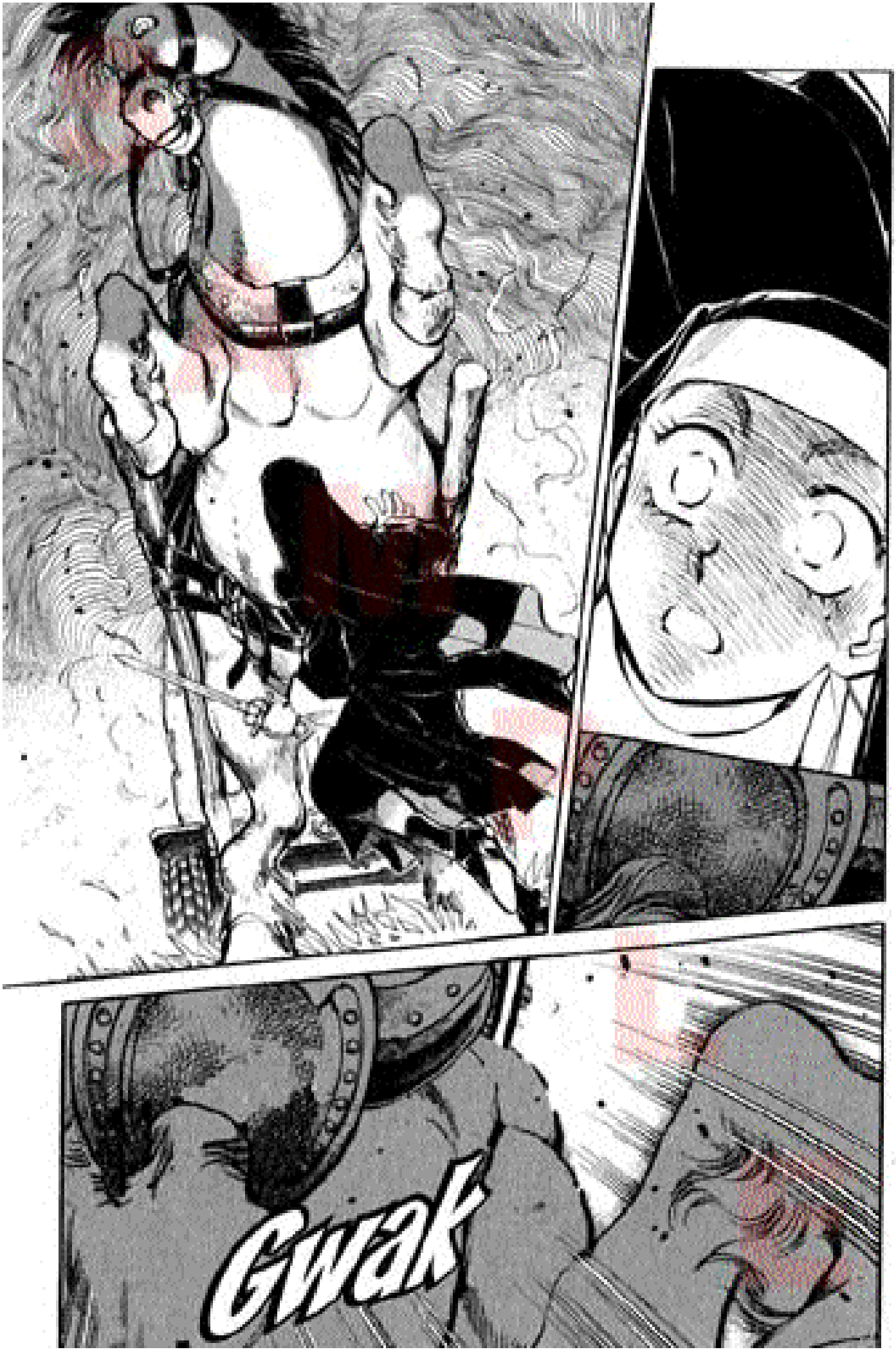
WHEN DEATH ARRIVES ALL OF A SUDDEN, IT'S AS IF IT WERE EXPECTED.


FOR THE PEOPLE OF FIOLITO...
SURVIVORS DON'T MOURN. NO MONUMENT HONORS THE DECEASED.
DEATH SIMPLY MEANS "TO LEAVE THIS STAGE."
ZAK
ZAK
HERE LIES MY BELOVED WIFE, WHO WAS SO TOLERANT OF HER SHORT-TEMPERED, SELFISH, AND MOODY HUSBAND. WITH AN IMMENSE HEART, MY BRIDE RESTS HERE.
THAT'S TOO SAD FOR ME.
WHEN MOTHER PASSES AWAY, I'D LIKE ALL THE VILLAGERS OF FIOLITO TO ATTEND.
GOD MAY NOT BE RESURRECTED IN THIS VILLAGE-- BUT I'D AT LEAST LIKE PEOPLE TO SEE WHAT THE NATURAL DEATH OF A HUMAN WAS LIKE.


GLG
GLG
GLG
GLG
GLG
GLG
GLG
GLG
GLG

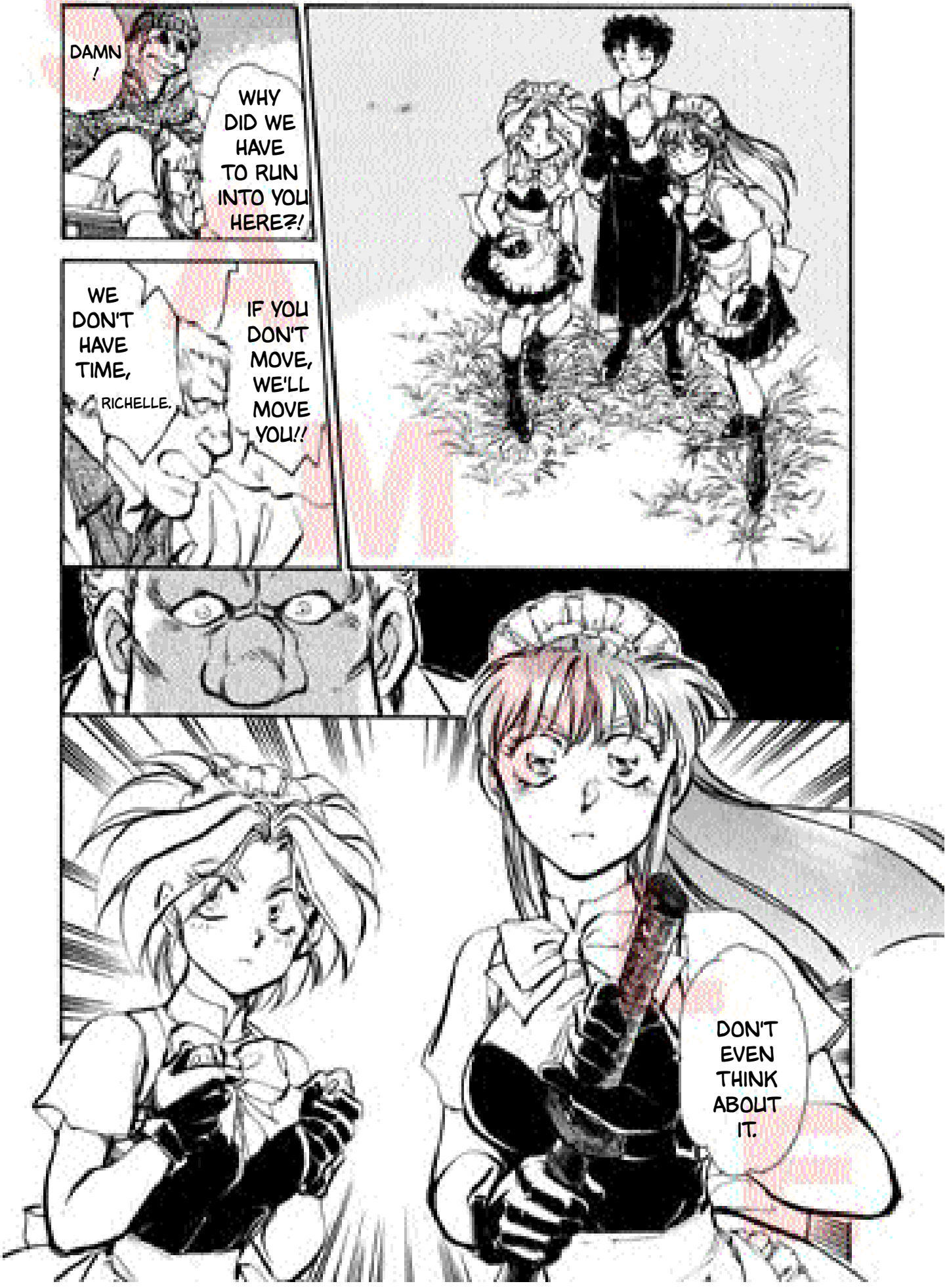

Brrr
GIG
END WORKZ


WORK 2
The Village of
Stone 4


Gwak


THOOM
MISS SARAI!
WHAT A BIG HORSE !
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?
PEL-SHRON GRAN-TROU-PER.
HEAVY CARRIAGE HORSE FOR MINES.
TWO METERS HIGH, WEIGHS A TON... HAS THE POWER OF FOUR RIDING HORSES.
hmph.
WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER IF YOU'D BEEN CRUSHED.


MR. HEAD-MAN !
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE ...
SO LATE AT NIGHT ?
GET AWAY.
I WANT TO TALK TO MOTHER.
YOU CAN'T !!
MOTHER IS SLEEPING !!

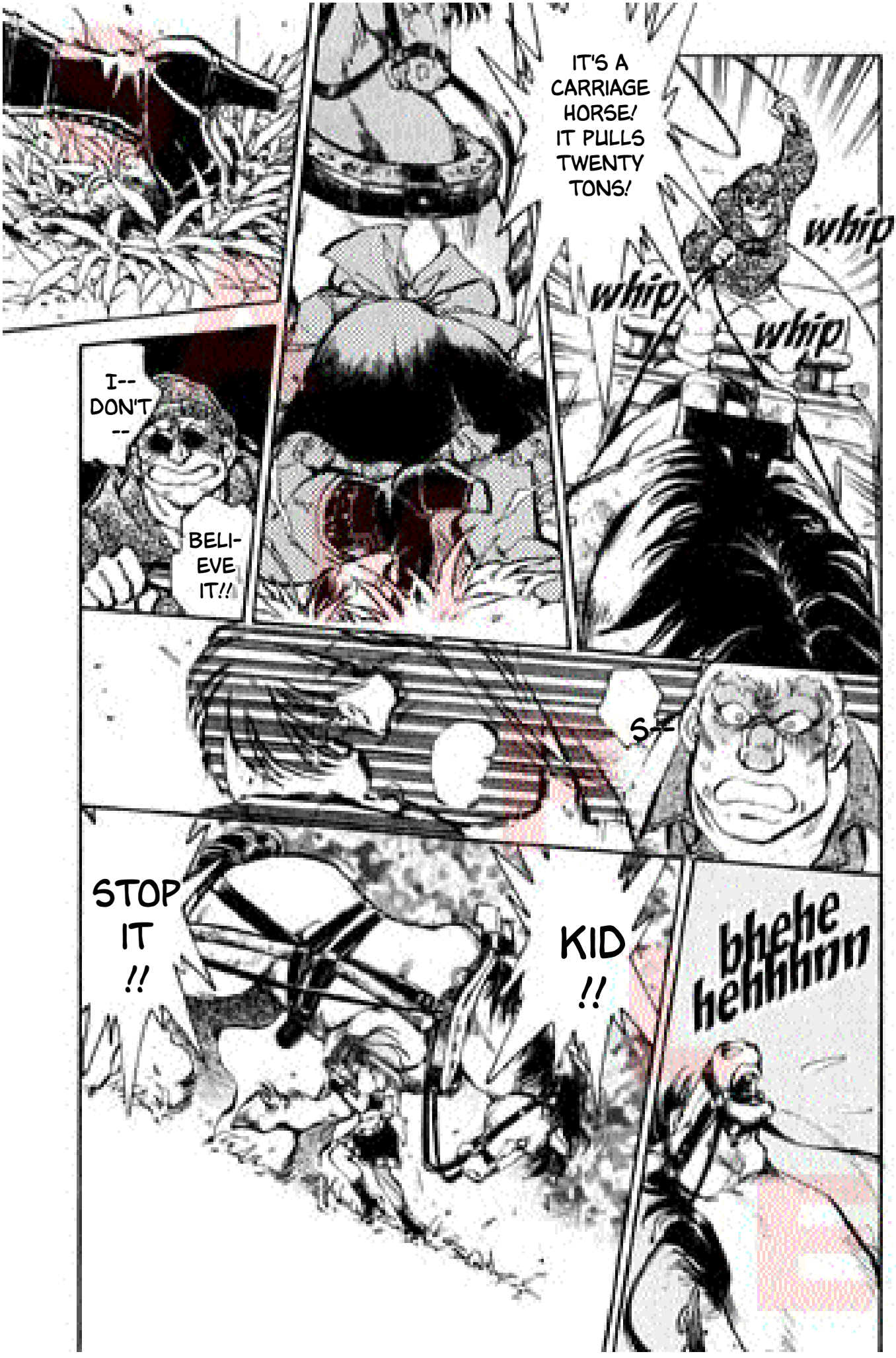

DAMN!
WHY DID WE HAVE TO RUN INTO YOU HERE?!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME, RICHELLE.
IF YOU DON'T MOVE, WE'LL MOVE YOU!!
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT.


SO YOU'RE THE GUARD MAIDS.
I THOUGHT THEY WERE MUSCULAR AMAZON TYPES.
BUT THEY'RE JUST WAIFS. THEY LOOK ...
JUST LIKE NORMAL CHAMBER-MAIDS.
WHERE'D YOU GET THE MONEY TO HIRE THEM?
EH, RICH-ELLE?
THEY MUST'VE SENT YOU THE CHEAPEST KIDS THEY HAD.
BRRR
CAR-AMAS!
YES, SIR.
HYA AAA AA!!
WHIP!
WE'RE GONNA RUN YOU OVER!


CWAT!


HEY!
YOUR BRAIN MUST BE...
AS TINY AS YOUR BODY.
ARE YOU CRAZY ?!
WHAT ?!
GO AHEAD, GRAN-TROUPER !!
WE AIN'T GOT TIME TO PLAY!
STEP ON HER !!


DUH
HEHH?


IT'S A CARRIAGE HORSE! IT PULLS TWENTY TONS!
whip
whip
whip
I-- DON'T --
BELI- EVE IT!!
S-
STOP IT !!
KID !!
bhehe hehhhhm


THAP
pang
pang
pang
pang
THUD

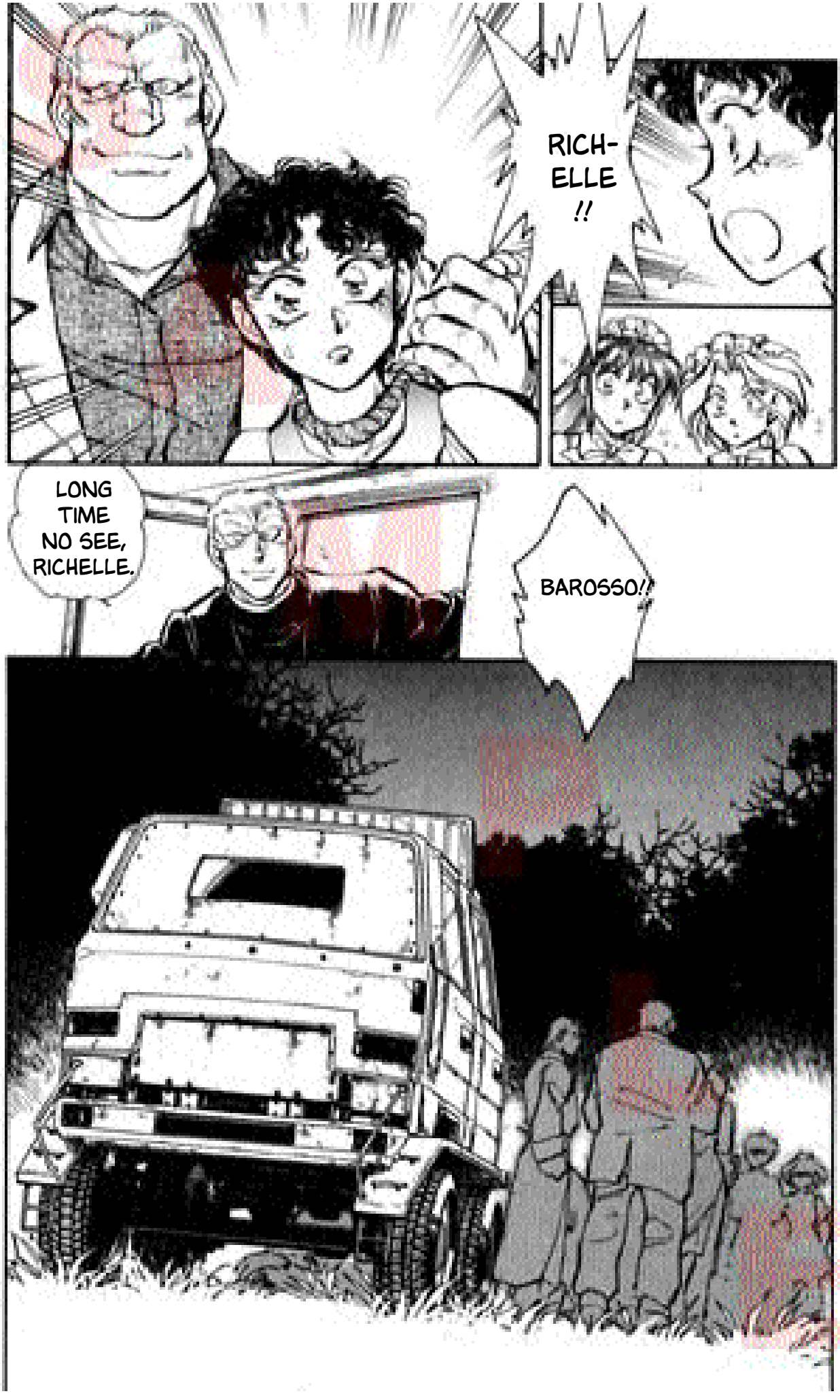

waaaaaa!!
EEEAAAA!!
CRACK
GLK
zrrrrr!!
squeak
squeak


huf
huf
huf
I SMELL LIKE HORSE ...
WHY, YOU...
AKI
HOLD IT.
ONE MOVE, AND YOUR HEAD AND BODY WILL SAY...
BYE-BYE.


WONDER-ING HOW I GOT ON HERE?
ZAK!
DO YOU STILL THINK ...
WE'RE JUST CHEAP GUARD MAIDS ?
UH ...
MISS FLICKER !!
DON'T KILL HIM!!

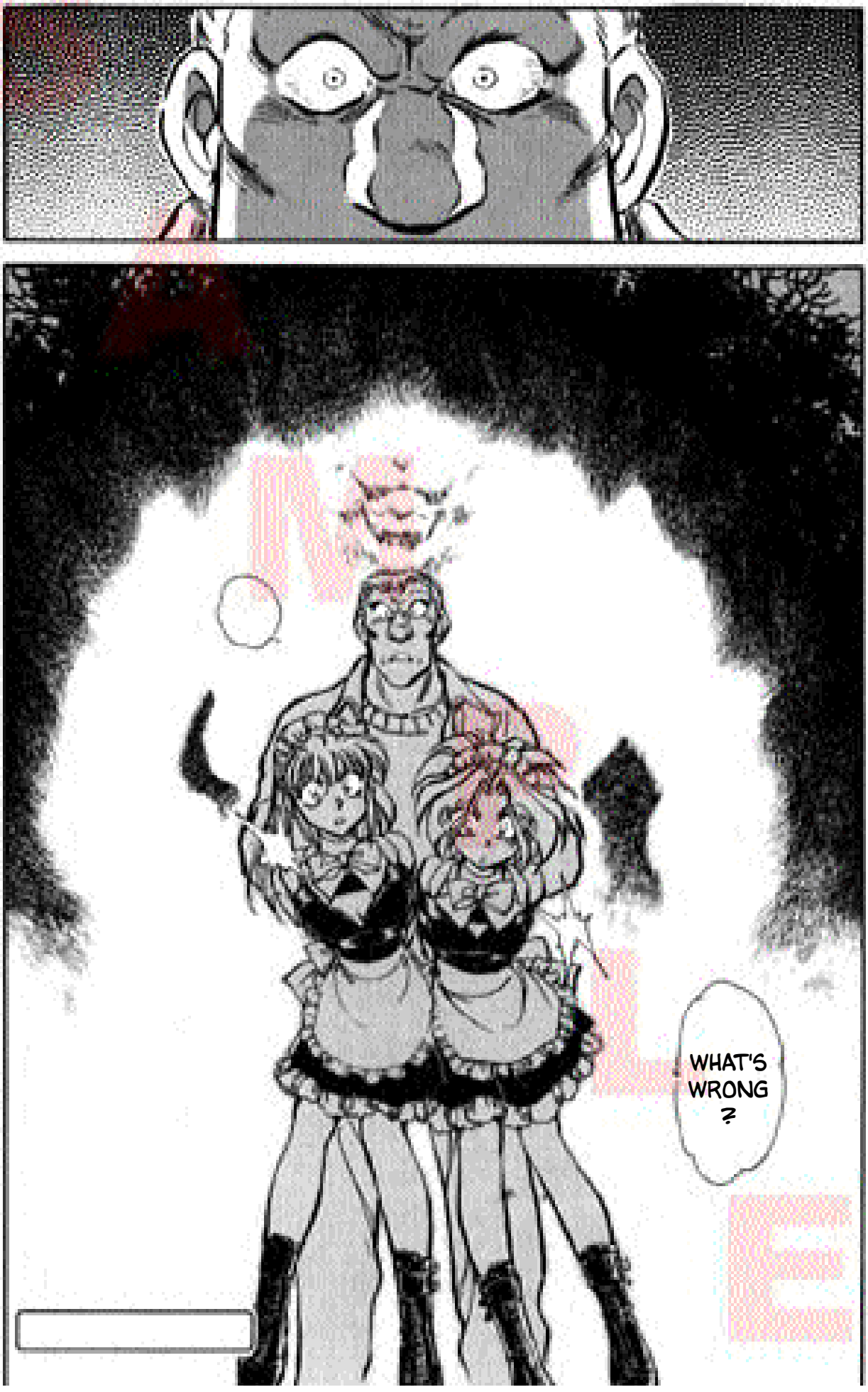

ZAP!!

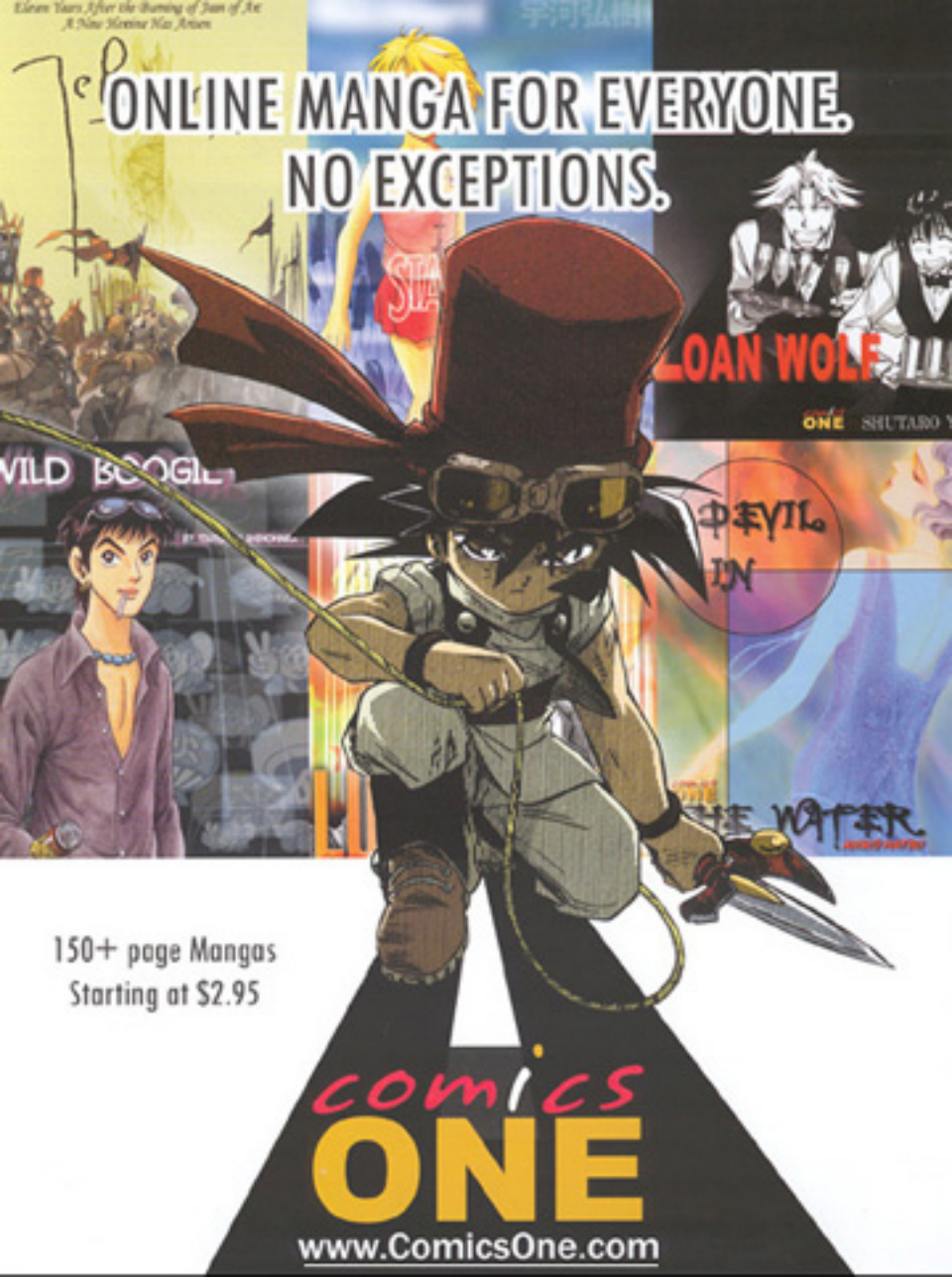

ZH
YOU FORGOT THIS, GIRLY.
Gasp!
Idiot.
TELL THOSE CUTIES TO BE STILL ...
RICH-ELLE!


RICH-
ELLE
!!
LONG
TIME
NO SEE,
RICHELLE.
BAROSSO!?


I'LL SMASH HER VOICE-BOX.
SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK.
gg...
DO AS HE SAYS --
RICH-ELLE!
WHAT IS--
GOING ON HERE?
TAKE HIM TO MOTHER!
AND GET THOSE MAIDS OUT OF THE WAY!
ALL RIGHT ...
RICH-ELLE ...
I'M SORRY --
MISS SARAI, MISS FLICKER !!


IT'S A LEATHER BELT FOR HORSES.
IT FITS YOU WELL.
I'M NOT LIKE SARA!
HA!
THEY'RE SO SKINNY! WHERE DOES ALL THAT POWER COME FROM?
squeeze
NUGG
HOW ABOUT USING THESE GIRLS TO PULL THE CARRIAGE ON THE WAY BACK?


WHAT'S WRONG ?


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DEVIL
IN
THE WATER
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